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Minden man mourned following Christmas Eve tragedy

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Terrence Bradley is being remembered by his sister as a quiet, kind person who went out of his way to help others.

"My brother Terrence was a generous soul," Meagan McNally wrote in an email to the *Times*. "He was always willing to help people, be a shoulder to lean on or a listening ear. He liked to make people smile. He was also selfless and took care of our dad after our mom died."

Bradley, 26, was killed Christmas Eve, after being struck by a southbound vehicle on Highway 35 at its intersection with Water Street. Bradley, on foot, had just finished a shift at the Minden Valu-Mart.

McNally had seen her brother that morning. "The last time I saw him was Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m.," she wrote.

"He was getting ready to go to work. I went upstairs to get ready for the day and didn't tell him goodbye when he left for work. I didn't know it would be the last time I would see him."

see BRADLEY page 2



Making the most of winter

Owen Megrah Poppe laughs as he rides down a hill in his toboggan behind Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden on Saturday, Jan. 6. The Grade 4 student was part of a group celebrating his friend's 10th birthday.
/DARREN LUM Staff

Village Chalet closes in Minden

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

A Minden staple has closed its doors.

The Village Chalet Family Restaurant, located along the downtown strip of Bobcaygeon Road and in business some 25 years, has shut down.

Staff at the eatery were informed of the closure in late December.

"It is with great sadness I am informing everyone that Village Chalet as we know it is closed indefinitely," read a Dec. 27 post on the restaurant's Facebook page.

see CLOSURE page 2

County taxes likely to go up 3.6% in 2018

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Haliburton County residents are likely looking at a property tax increase of approximately 3.6 per cent at the upper tier level for 2018.

County councillors discussed the draft budget during a special council meeting on Jan. 4, and it's expected the budget will be passed at council's regular meeting at the end of the month.

The budget contains just more than \$22 million in spending, \$16.3 million of which will be levied from taxation. The remainder of the revenues come from provincial and federal funding, and a small portion from user charges and fees.

Forty-six per cent of the budget will be spent on transportation services, which includes the roads department. Twenty per cent will be spent on health services; 13 per cent on general government; nine per cent on social and family service and social housing; six per cent on culture and recreation; five per cent on the planning department; and one per cent for protective services.

Salaries and benefits constitute 41 per cent of the total budget, and county staff are scheduled for a 1.75 per cent wage increase in 2018, two per cent for paramedics as per a collective agreement.

The \$16.3 million that will be levied from taxation is an \$800,000 jump from the \$15.5 million that was levied in 2017, a total levy increase of 5.88 per cent.

see MORE page 2

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Bradley remembered as caring son, brother

from page 1

McNally had had an early Christmas with her brother and father, and had returned to Toronto to spend time with her partner's family. It was about 9 p.m. Christmas Eve when the coroner called her from the hospital.

"I immediately thought something was wrong with my dad when I saw the hospital calling but couldn't understand why my brother hadn't called me on my cell," McNally wrote. "When I answered the coroner told me he had some sad news and that my brother had been struck by a car and killed. As you can imagine the news was devastating and my heart was ripping apart. To top it off the news sent my father to the hospital as well. When the OPP came to his door to tell him he started to clutch his chest. It ended up that it was just the shock and he recovered."

McNally recalls her brother was someone who liked to keep to himself.

"He liked to play online fantasy games and had recently got into Dungeons and Dragons," she said. "He enjoyed the theatre, and chess."

She remembered taking Bradley shopping for her wedding, which took place this past September.

"I took Terrence shopping for a suit for my wedding," McNally wrote.

"He wanted this ridiculous yellow bow tie and I remember laughing cause I thought it was a horrible choice and knew he was doing it to torment me, but it actually suited him. He



Terrence Bradley, right, was killed Christmas Eve after being struck by a vehicle while walking across Highway 35 at Water Street. His sister Meagan McNally, centre, remembers him as a kind and generous person. /Photo submitted

looked very handsome that day."

She cautioned drivers to be cautious at the Highway 35 and Water Street intersection.

"Watch for pedestrians," McNally wrote. "The light is not

long enough for an elderly person or child to cross safely. My brother wasn't able to make it."

At press time, the OPP investigation into the accident was continuing, and no further information had been released.

More than \$4 million marked for infrastructure

from page 1

The budget contains an increase in capital expenses of some \$300,000 and includes more than \$4 million that will be spent on infrastructure, including a series of roads and bridge projects, as well as equipment, vehicles and broadband infrastructure.

With an assessment increase of 3.55 per cent from MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) and nearly one per cent in growth (new taxation) in the community, the initial tax increase in the draft budget was 2.6 per cent.

This would have equated to an increase from \$193.66 to \$204.09 of taxation for every \$100,000 of assessment.

However, some members of council were concerned about the county's decreasing reserve levels.

"I still see what looks like a really significant drop between 2017 and 2018," said Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen. "I think we need to talk about it. It's not a healthy position, as far as reserves are concerned."

The county's total reserves currently total about \$2.8 million, and were scheduled to sit at approximately \$2.1 million

by the end of the 2018.

"It really was a planned decrease," county chief administrative officer Mike Rutter told councillors.

The county's reserve levels have been on the decline for years. In 2011, total reserves balances were nearly \$4.5 million. Facing decreases in provincial equalization payments, council has drawn on reserves over the years to keep debt and taxation levels low. Some auditors suggest to be in a healthy position, a municipality should ideally have the equivalent of half a year's tax levy in reserves.

Dysart et al Mayor Murray Fearrey suggested increasing the taxation rate increase by another percentage point, using that money to beef up reserves. A one per cent increase at the county level equates to \$150,000 in taxation for the municipality. Councillors decided that \$50,000 from the additional one per cent hike would be used to pay for a transit implementation plan, and that the remaining \$100,000 would go into reserves.

“

I still see what looks like a really significant drop between 2017 and 2018.

— DEPUTY WARDEN LIZ DANIELSEN
ON REDUCTION IN COUNTY RESERVES

”

Closure of downtown restaurant 'a big adjustment'

from page 1

"The staff were just informed late at night on Boxing Day, and I feel we need to share with you, our loyal customers. I am sorry we are unable to give you more notice, this is the notice we were given. I know I speak for the staff when I say we will miss all the good times that were shared with you our friends and customers and we will miss your smiling faces on a daily basis. Thank you for your undying loyalty."

The Facebook post was written by longtime employee Donna Young, who'd worked at the restaurant since 2001.

Young told the paper she'll miss the regular customers whom staff got to know so well.

"They were a great group of people, they came daily," she said. "We loved our customers. They made our day. It's going to be a big adjustment."

Many customers took to social media, lamenting the Village Chalet's closure.

"I will miss the staff, neighbours, and the comfort of knowing you could always go to the Village for a friendly chat," wrote one customer.

"Donna's 'Bacon Boys' had gone there since they were in diapers," wrote another.

The *Times* was unable to make contact with the owners before press time.

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Highway maintenance contract goes to Fowler

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Fowler Construction will take over highway maintenance of provincial highways within the Huntsville district, which includes Haliburton County, beginning in September of 2018.

The Ministry of Transportation announced last September that it was bringing an early end to its contract with multinational corporation Carillion, which took over maintenance of provincial highways in the district in 2012.

"The Ministry of Transportation and Carillion have mutually agreed to end the contract for the Huntsville area," read an email from ministry communication staff at the time. "This is a mutual decision between the two organizations based on what is best for the province, the travelling public, and for Carillion. Retendering the contract for the Huntsville area provides the opportunity for MTO to make enhancements to the services provided under the maintenance contract."

The 11-year contract with Carillion, worth \$12 million a year, began in 2012, and many county residents noticed a sharp decline in the quality of snow clearing along highways 35 and 118. What residents have called dangerous winter conditions prompted many letters to the editor during the past few years. Haliburton County council sent correspondence with its concerns to the provincial government, and councillors, along with MPP Laurie Scott, have met with MTO reps regarding the issue

in the past.

The MTO has confirmed that Muskoka-based Fowler Construction, which held the contract prior to it being awarded to Carillion, has received the new contract for the Huntsville district, which will include the maintenance of highways 35 and 118 through most of Haliburton County.

"The new contract begins on Sept. 1, 2018," reads an email from communications staff. "The new contract is for a term of seven years with a potential extension for one additional year."

Fowler had previously subcontracted out snow removal services to local companies, such as Carnarvon's Francis Thomas Contracting.

"I'm glad to report that we're back in the driver's seat," said Moreen Miller, president of Fowler Construction, adding she thought the province had heard public concerns, and that the new contract signified positive progress.

As for whether snow removal will be contracted out to local companies, "We're in the very stages of determining how the pieces of the contract will be put together," Miller said. "Certainly, Fowler's goal is to employ as many local people as possible."

Local politicians are pleased with the change.

"I heard nothing but complaints about Carillion and what appeared to many to be a substantial decline in service," Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt told the paper. "Safety was the main concern we heard over and over. Well-maintained highways are critical to a rural environment so here's hoping the

change back to Fowler provides a more acceptable service level and increased public satisfaction."



Highway 35 in Minden on Jan. 8. The province has terminated its contract with Carillion for highway maintenance in the Huntsville district, which includes most of Haliburton County, and Fowler Construction will take over with a seven-year contract as of September 2018.

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

PUBLIC WELCOME

Jan 25 - 9:00 am, combined COTW/Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.mindenhills.ca

Please Note: Council meetings are reduced to one meeting during the month of January.

NOTICE – PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED FEE CHANGE

Please take notice that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting regarding proposed changes to its Fees and Charges By-law on January 25, 2018 commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street.

The proposed fee changes will apply to the following:

- **"Schedule H" Community Services Programs & Facilities** to increase the rental rate for a minimum 4 hour rental from \$48.00 to \$60.00 and each additional hour from \$12/hr to \$15/hr for the use of the Lochlin Community Centre.
- **"Schedule L" Local Community Insurance Services (LCIS)** to establish facility user fees and rates for the implementation of an Annual Low Risk User Facility.

Program for Local Community General Liability Insurance, applicable to users for the Township of Minden Hills Community Centre Facilities and Parks Property rental(s) to be administered by the Community Services Department.

For more information regarding the proposed Lochlin Rental Fees, please contact Ivan Ingram, Environment Manager at iingram@mindenhills.ca or 705-286-1260 ext. 216.

For more information regarding the proposed LCIS Program, please contact Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services at mcoleman@mindenhills.ca or 705-286-1936 ext. 201.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY SECURITY INFORMATION SESSION

You are invited to an Information Session with guest speakers of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Provincial Ministries. They will identify resources and funding opportunities supporting local government initiatives on climate change and energy security.

Engage in:

The Importance of Local Government Leadership on Climate Change;
Municipal Energy Plan Program: Capitalizing on Energy & Climate Change Opportunities;
Ontario's Climate Change Adaptation Approach;
Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan – Municipal Connections;
Taking the Initiative: How to begin implementation of Federal and Provincial Supports.

WHEN: January 17, 2018, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., S.G. Nesbitt Community Centre, 55 Parkside Street in Minden. Hosted by Minden Hills Climate Change Action Committee.

For more information contact Councillor Sayne at (705) 454-9804 or email psayne@mindenhills.ca. **RSVP** Deanna Smith at 705-286-1260 ext. 212 or email dsmith@mindenhills.ca.

Full Session Program available at www.mindenhills.ca

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(ongoing to April 1st)

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ADULT ONLY SKATE

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00pm-2:00pm
(ongoing to March 29th)

Cost: \$2.00

NOTE: Helmets are recommended for all skaters.

RIVERWALK & WETLANDS BOARDWALK – WINTER USAGE

The Boardwalk & Logger's Crossing Bridge are cleared of snow regularly but are not sanded or salted. Residents are advised to "Exercise Caution" when using these pathways as they could develop slippery conditions.

WINTER PARKING

From Nov. 1st to Apr. 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 am. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

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WINTER SAND

Is available at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, lower parking lot, 55 Parkside Street for residential use. Please note this is for Individual Use Only – No Commercial Users Please.

Housing corporation selling older holdings to create new communities

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

The Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Housing Corporation has been selling off some of its older units, using the proceeds to invest in new buildings.

Housing corporation CEO Hope Lee visited Haliburton County councillors during a Jan. 4 meeting. Lee is also the manager of housing of the City of Kawartha Lakes, which acts as the social services provider for the county.

The corporation began selling single detached and semi-detached units in 2014 and so far, has sold 37 of the 64 units approved for sale.

"The prices have been good for us, particularly in the latter years," Hope told councillors.

In 2017, the average sale price was \$229,000, up from an average of \$155,000 in 2014. Collectively, the sales have totalled more than \$6 million.

The corporation is dispossessing itself of older units largely due to their energy inefficiency.

"That really is the highest budget line that we have," Lee said.

She told councillors that detached homes have been an easier sell than some of the

attached units.

The housing corporation avails itself of rebate programs for hydro, gas and water, and keeps an eye on utility bills, educating tenants about energy efficiency when required.

While dispossessing itself of older units, the housing corporation has continued to increase its overall holdings, constructing new buildings such as the multi-unit one at Devan Court in Lindsay that opened in Lindsay in 2015, and the 12-unit Pinegrove Place building that opened in Minden this past summer.

The housing corporation operates a number of facilities in Haliburton County, including buildings on Parkside Street in Minden, Mountain Street in Haliburton Village and the Whispering Pines housing complex along County Road 21 just outside the village. Both the existing Pinegrove Place and Whispering Pines buildings represent the first phase of a series of phases for each development.

The corporation's housing stock will soon total 734 units.

The corporation has also achieved surpluses in recent years, through measures such as the streamlining of staff positions and the utilization of contracted cleaning companies.

Lee told councillors that a surplus was also forecasted for 2017.




Winter in the woods

Lincoln Aleksander asked for some additional instruction from Ruth O'Connell, Minden Hills Cultural Centre staff, at the Winter in the Woods Kid's Camp held between Jan. 3 and Jan. 5. O'Connell led several students in creating slide whistles out of carrots during the day camp, which took place over school vacation. SUE TIFFIN Staff




Vanessa Zeman and Emily Austen-Ward took part in the Winter in the Woods Kid's Camp that was held at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre from Jan. 3 - 5. Kids aged seven and up had the chance to learn candle making, bread making, weaving, quill and journal making, created a wax seal stamp and whittled carrots into slide whistles.



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Fleming Crew	Rodco Enterprise	Minden Times
	Minden Home Hardware	County Life

And from the bottoms of our hearts, we also want to thank EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU who contributed to the Gifts from the Heart Campaign.

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If you did not find a Highlands Summer Festival Season Pass in your stocking this Christmas, there is still time to take advantage of our Christmas Season Pass Sale. You won't want to miss this season's great line-up including Romeo & Juliet, Not Quite Sherlock, Cliffhanger, From Weimar to Vaudeville, and The Dining Room. All five shows for only \$160... that is almost a 15% saving.

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IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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Election year

2018 IS AN OLYMPIC year, and, equally as exciting, it's also a municipal election year in Ontario.

Please, contain yourselves, ladies and gentlemen.

OK, so municipal elections may be slightly less exciting than ski jumping or skeleton luge. It's also true that municipal elections tend to excite people less than federal and provincial ones, and that municipal politics, in general, may be less exciting than federal and provincial politics, with their warring partisan tribes and televised theatrics.

But they are no less important. Arguably, the decisions of municipal councils have a greater bearing on our day-to-day

lives, as those decisions pertain to utilitarian matters of infrastructure, waste disposal, public facilities, etc.

Generally, anyone who can vote in a municipal election can run in one. To vote in one, you must be 18 or older, a Canadian citizen, and a resident, property owner or tenant of the given municipality, or the spouse of a property owner or tenant.

If you are passionate about parks, randy for road maintenance or coo-coo for cultural planning, maybe this is the year to consider throwing your proverbial hat in the ring. Or maybe you have a friend

or neighbour you think would make a good addition to a local municipal council. Now is the time to let them know.

After changes made by the province last year, the municipal election process will be shorter than it was previously, which is not a bad thing. While previously candidates could register at the start of the year, thereby initiating a nearly year-long campaign, for this year's election, the earliest registration date will be May 1, with the registration period closing July 27. Elections take place Oct. 22.

As voters, it's time to take stock of the past three-plus years, of what municipal councils have or have not achieved, if you feel your local

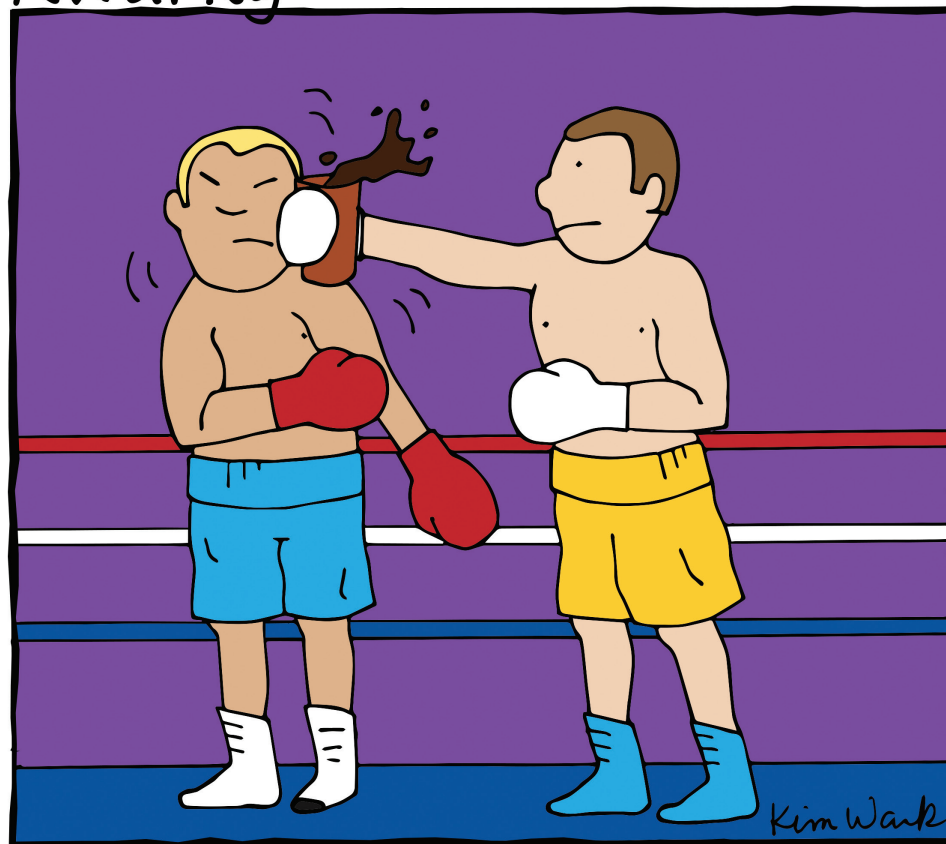
government is shaping your community in the way you want to see it shaped.

If you are not a regular follower of local politics, this year is a good time to start. Familiarize yourself with what is happening in your community. Familiarize yourself with the candidates who, come springtime, will begin putting their names forward to be your ward councillor, or your mayor. Ask questions. Attend all-candidates' meetings. Get involved.

Municipal politics may not be as exciting as a bobsled race, but they're a lot more important.

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

Kwarky

*The Double Double Punch*

The dog days of winter

AS I WRITE THIS we are going through what I'd call a normal winter and what my dogs would refer to as a darn good excuse to build them an indoor washroom, sauna and gym. Basically, these are the dog days of winter – which are not all that different from the dog days of summer, provided you discount a minor variation of 50 degrees.

Much like the dog days of summer, most dogs are lazy this time of year.

Sure, beagles don't mind winter, so long as rabbits are around and the snow isn't too deep. And huskies finally get the temperatures and the jobs they were built for.

But, for the vast majority of other dogs, and flushing and retrievers in particular, winter is like a comfortable pillow, but only in that it can't pass quickly enough for them.

My dogs have settled into a wintry routine of thrice daily walks, the length of which are based on entirely temperature, snow depth and how busy I am. On -28 days, the walk can be counted in a matter of steps. On my busy days, they take their time.

Interestingly, though dogs spend much time in the den, I haven't met one who isn't very happy to channel its inner wolf. For my dogs this amounts to howling every time they hunch over and their butts touch ice. I'm not proud of this, but having winter camped a time or two, I can't fault them.

But that's the least of their worries – and ours.

Their biggest fear is dog sweaters. If you doubt this, try to make contact with a dog that has been forced to wear a cute sweater adorned with snowflakes or reindeer. If your

eyes do lock, you'll quickly determine that their stare conveys the same kind of resentment that Cornelius had in *Planet of the Apes*. Mark my words, if canines ever do rise up against us, they will be led by a chihuahua in a Christmassy cardigan.

The more immediate problem with being an average hunting dog in winter, I suspect, is unemployment. There's nothing around to retrieve or flush, the trees that need marking are buried in snow drifts and very few people travel by dogsled these days – which I think is the main reason that dogs bark at passing snowmobiles. Heck, even if dogsleds were more common, the huskies already run that racket.

Which is why, for the most part, the average hunting dog's job in winter is comprised of sleeping and shedding hair. You wouldn't think this would be the case, but it is. I'm not sure whether this is due to the fact that our dogs keep their basement apartment heated to a

consistent 21 degrees or whether shedding is a by-product of pillow consumption, which is their other job. All I know is that the other day I changed a filter on my furnace and, for a brief moment, thought I was rescuing a lost dog.

They say that idle hands are the work of the devil – which means, just as I suspected, the devil must visit my dogs in winter.

Every time I walk into the luxurious basement apartment that my dogs now inhabit, they have this guilty look on their faces – like they have just put out a cigarette. I'm not sure what they're up to. But they're definitely up to something. And there are always fewer pillows.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Year of the twins

THE NEW YEAR brings huge news – there will be no nuclear war with North Korea. That's my New Year's scoop, based on a remarkable discovery.

Through deep-dive investigative reporting I have learned that Kim Jong-un and Donald J. Trump are related. They are in fact twins! That's right, born into the same family, but separated at birth.

So stop fretting about nuclear war because twins, although they sometimes yell at each other, will never harm each other.

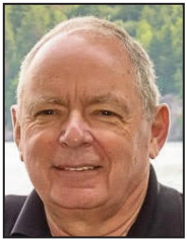
Some will say that is ridiculous. Fake news! But look at the evidence.

Kim and Trump look alike. Both are chubby and have penguin-like gaits.

Their dumpy physiques are the result of bad diets. Kim binges on imported Swiss cheese, while Trump inhales four Big Macs at a lunch sitting.

Both men are obsessed with their hair. Trump grows his long on the side and combs it over to cover his bald spot. Kim has gone to a trapezoid doo that looks like an old-fashioned desk telephone perched on his head.

Kim has decreed that all North Korean males wear their hair similar to his. Trump has not gone that far, probably because most American men cannot afford boxcar quantities of blonde dye and hair spray.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

Neither is a picture of sartorial elegance. Kim wears a dark and dull Mao tunic while Trump prefers his baggy blue suit and bright red tie that hangs well below his belt so it points suggestively to his crotch.

Their educations have been similar. Neither was very bright in school.

Kim went to a top private school in Switzerland where he became addicted to cheese and basketball. He flunked there so his father moved him to a public school and into a lower grade. Trump went to two different colleges but got better grades in sports than anything else.

Both men are fabulously wealthy, Kim the richer by far. Kim is the wealthiest person in North Korea with access to \$5 billion and owns a private island. Trump is only the 248th wealthiest person in America with \$3.1 billion.

Kim recruits young virgins to his Gippeumjo, which are "pleasure squads" for his entertainment. Trump says that because he is a celebrity he can do anything with women he meets, including grabbing them by the genitals.

Both Trump and Kim like to be referred to as Dear Leader, and each is Commander-in-Chief of his armed forces, but neither has any military experience. Trump missed Vietnam because of heel spurs that don't seem to have restricted his golf game. Kim learned war manoeuvres by playing video games.

These twins are loud and boastful guys. Kim brags that he learned to drive at age three and invents cancer cures in his spare time. Trump boasts his greatest asset is that he is not mentally ill but in fact a "very stable genius".

Recently Kim boasted that his nuclear missiles can reach any part of the U.S. and he holds the nuclear button at his desk. Not to be outdone, Trump boasted that his nuclear button is bigger and stronger than Kim's.

Each shouts a lot. When Trump doesn't like someone, he yells "You're Fired" and they are gone. When Kim doesn't like someone he shouts "Ready, Aim, Fire" and staff arrive with a body bag to carry the corpse away.

Sure, they yell at each other a lot, but that's only sibling rivalry, done in fun. I mean if you had a twin who was obsessed with war toys you too would affectionately call him Little Rocket Man. It's only natural.

So what more evidence is needed to show that they are in fact twins and will not start throwing nukes at each other?

Even their names give clues to their personalities. The un in Jong-un means peaceful or kindness. Trump in its earliest English form means breaking wind.

Email: shaman@vianet.ca

Profile: <http://www.amazon.com/-/e/B001K8FY3Y>

Cigarettes and the military



Legion br. 636

"Our Boys want smokes." This was a poster sponsored by the Over-Seas Club, and appeared in storefront windows during the First World War. For a 25 cent donation, we send a dollars worth of smokes. Many other organizations joined the bandwagon. Imperial Tobacco gave \$1 million, and adding to their patriotic image, they promoted military brand names such as Players Navy Cut, and Tuckett Tobacco pushed its Army, Navy brand. In November, 1914, *La Presse* launched its tobacco charity with a stirring editorial for the Allied cause, emphasizing how necessary tobacco was in a war to defend civilization. It said smoking was an act that established man's superiority over animals, and its benefits included helping soldiers retain their self-control, soothe their nerves, distract them from

sadness, and enable them to face dangers. *The Montreal Gazette* launched its fund in early 1915, appealing to the public to show its patriotism by donating to the Gazette Tobacco Fund, proclaiming, "Our boys are giving their lives; all they ask of us is something to smoke." The Gazette Fund only accepted only monetary donations. Twenty-five cents bought a package of 50 cigarettes and four ounces of pipe tobacco with matches. A dollar covered the cost of a full package for an individual soldier. Each full package contained one briar pipe, one rubber-lined tobacco pouch, one tinder lighter, 50 cigarettes, four ounces of pipe tobacco, and a return postcard addressed to the donor. By the end of 1918 when it wound down, the fund had collected more than \$193,000, which had bought 25 million cigarettes, over a million packages of tobacco, and 6,674 pipes. Ninety per cent of soldiers who returned home were smokers. What a difference in 100 years!

Thank you all for your support in 2017. We look forward to your visit in 2018. Everyone is welcome.

letters to the editor

Response from reader

To the Editor,

This is in response to a reader's comment from the Dec. 28 *Minden Times* regarding the omission of a potential private road issue with the Bob Lake public boat ramp proposal. This issue was raised after our proposal submission deadline to the township of Nov. 15. As members of the Bob Lake Association we do not have the tools or resources to make an official ruling on such matters, so this will certainly need to be studied and addressed as part of the township's report being prepared by the director of community services. Our own research since the proposal submission has uncovered a few items. First, the stretch of private road bridging the end of the public por-

tion of Claude Brown and the road allowance to host the boat ramp is under 75 feet. Secondly, our understanding is that this small section of road is classified as a "Trespass" or "Forced" road, meaning municipally maintained on private land. Such roads are considered to be municipal roads accessible to the public with any and all liabilities covered by the municipality. We encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the complete proposal as well as a growing number of questions and answers with supporting details on our website at boblakeassociation.ca/boat-ramp.

Dave Roberts
Director – Bob Lake Association

Minden's magnificent medical staff

To the Editor,

Recently I had a needle lung biopsy at Peterborough Regional Health Hospital and returned home to Minden.

My lung collapsed as soon as I walked through our door and my husband called 911. I was petrified – I could not breathe. My husband was petrified.

The paramedic team arrived – Chris and Carla – amazing people. The mere sound of Chris's voice calmed and comforted me and he always explained what he was going to do and why and even what I could expect from it.

Upon arriving at the Minden hospital I was immediately surrounded by a team of wonderful and caring professionals. They explained how I needed a chest tube to fix the collapsed lung. Oh my did that prospect scare the living daylights out of me. My face must have registered this because one of the team members came over to me and put her hand on my shoulder. I felt overcome with reassurance and comfort. She was the x-ray technician, Jaycee, and said she would stay with me for the entire procedure. From that point on I called her my angel. I would never have survived the entire process if not for her and her extraor-

dinary compassion. The procedure included a sedative that sent me into another dimension. I lived through the psychedelic '60s and never touched any drugs – this experience was enough. I remember telling all of them "I am Alice Through The Looking Glass!" – My eyes were kaleidoscopes of burlap and tattersall checks. Can't make this up! OMG I was indeed "tripping" – really? Me?! I was cocooned with my angel holding my hand as she helped me down the rabbit hole ... and back up.

Over the next couple of days I would visit the hospital for follow-up x-rays, stat tests and any concerns I had about the way I was breathing and ultimately removal of the chest tube. I cannot use the words caring, compassionate, professional and wonderful enough to describe the way every one of "my team" treated me. Suffice to say I have a sincere admiration and affection for them – not in a stalker way!

In closing I would like to commend all members of the health profession and first responders for the work they do during the holiday season(s) as well as year-round.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Maureen James
Minden

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County to fund transit plan

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Haliburton County council has decided it will hire a consultant to complete a transportation project implementation study, but whether or not the municipality moves ahead with some sort of transit system will be a decision for the next council.

During their Dec. 13 meeting, councillors received a business case for a public transportation system, submitted by a local transportation task force.

That task force was formed during a transportation summit held in November of 2016.

The submission suggested two main options for a transportation system in Haliburton County.

One was a booked, shared ride service that would see some kind of shuttle picking up residents who book rides, operating five days a week with an estimated cost of about \$192,000 a year.

The second was a blended model that would see a bus travelling a fixed route, with a booked, shared ride service bringing residents to pick-up locations of the fixed route.

Operating five days a week, the estimated cost for this service would be \$315,000 per annum.

During a Jan. 4 council meeting, county planner Charley White told councillors that a new community transportation grant program from the Ministry of Transportation provides communities with grants of up to \$500,000, over a five-year period. With an application deadline in February, a catch of the program is that municipalities must commit to a five-year project.

"The first year (or part) may be used to plan and create an implementation process for an intended service," reads a report from White. "The remaining four years, where the implementation plan identifies that the service is viable, can be used to fund the start-up of the program, together with a municipal (county) commitment of financial support. Grant recipients are required to build sustainability into project development and will be required to report on a sustainability plan in the fourth year of the grant program. In addition, a successful transportation system will be required to collaborate with at least one community organization to be eligible to apply."

The idea of a five-year commitment made councillors uneasy, especially since they felt there was not yet enough information on how some sort of transit system might be implemented.

"I'm a little cautious about this because I'm not sure we have enough information," said Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen. Instead, Danielsen said she'd prefer to see the county pay for the creation of an implementation plan.

"I think we all share some of the same concerns," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt. At the December meeting, councillors expressed logistical concerns about operating a system in a geographically large community with a sparse population, as well as those about financial sustainability and safety. It was also suggested that the municipalities of Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East would not benefit as much from such a program as Minden Hills and Dysart et al, which contain the county's main communities.

Moffatt agreed with Danielsen that there was not yet enough information for the county to commit to a provincial program.

"I don't see it as a fully formed enough plan to lock us in," Moffatt said. She noted the conversation around public transportation is a long-standing and ongoing one in the community.

"I think we've come a long way," Moffatt said. "You fund a plan, you don't fund an idea."

"I understand your hesitation," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, who'd said at the December meeting that it was time for county council to take some kind of action on public transportation. "Would you be willing to fund \$50,000, for a plan, with a consultant?"

"Yes," Moffatt replied. "To me, it's not dissimilar to, dare I say it, the pool discussion," she said, noting an indoor pool is also something many in the community clearly want.

"I'm not alone in having very serious concerns," Moffatt said, reiterating that she cannot forge ahead with an idea, as opposed to a concrete plan.

Dysart et al Mayor Murray Fearrey agreed and said he could also support funding the creation of a plan.

"A part of me would like to jump in the deep end and go, but I understand the caution, said Devolin.

Councillors agreed that \$50,000 would be added to the 2018 budget for the purpose. They also agreed that public education would be a key piece of the puzzle.

"Are we going to change people's patterns?" asked Dysart Deputy Mayor Andrea Roberts, pointing out that those who don't drive already have ways of getting about the community. "We need a certain level of users to make this even remotely viable."

Moffatt agreed that the promotion of the system would be paramount, and the public needed to realize that any service would only last if it is being used.

"If people are not going to use it, then we take it away," she said. "We can't have a bus driving around like the ice cream truck, and flag it down."

Fearrey noted that moving ahead with the creation of a plan would leave the decision about whether to proceed with a transit system for the next county council. Municipal elections in Ontario take place in October.

The county will also create a transit advisory committee.

**Have a thought,
comment or opinion
you'd like to share?**

Send a letter to the editor to
jenn@haliburtonpress.com

Positive discovery for Prentice following procedure

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

It is a great start to the new year for Minden teen Ryan Prentice and his family, who received some welcome news during a procedure several days ago to treat his previously undetected arterial venous malformation (AVM).

This comes after months of rehabilitation and numerous questions related to the spontaneous brain hemorrhage he suffered as a result of the AVM last year on Friday, April 7.

The procedure had been the result of several months of communication between Ryan's neurosurgeon and radiologist.

"They decided to use a method called embolization: this is where they enter the brain through the femoral artery. Because of the large size of his AVM they decided to use this approach to basically glue some

of the high flow areas in the AVM and this would allow it to be more treatable by radiation, a procedure called gamma knife radiosurgery," Ryan's dad Tom Prentice Jr. wrote in an email to the *Times*. According to the website related to the Mayo Clinic, a non-profit medical practice and medical research group based in the U.S., gamma knife radiosurgery, also known as brain stereotactic radiosurgery, is a type of radiation therapy used to treat tumours, vascular malformations and other abnormalities in the brain. Despite the name, this therapy does not involve surgery or incisions, but rather it involves directing 200 tiny beams of radiation at the tumour or malformation with minimal damage to healthy tissues near the target.

"Ryan was at Toronto Western Hospital on Tuesday, [Jan. 2] and he had the surgery but after a few hours the doctor came and told us that he had opted not to glue any of

the veins as none of them appeared to be considered "high flow."

Prentice understands this to be a good thing and was told the "radio surgery" has greater effect without the glue. This surgery provided the doctors an improved map of the AVM in Ryan's brain. The next step is to treat Ryan with what they call a "gamma knife procedure."

Prentice's son is home and had been scheduled to return to Toronto Western Hospital for a planning appointment this past Wednesday with a procedure scheduled for Jan. 17.

In the months following Ryan's emergency care, Ryan eventually became an out-patient and then received rehabilitation, which included work on his short-term memory, assistance from a speech language pathologist, a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist and social workers.

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary

School Grade 12 student has returned to school and hopes to graduate this spring. He finished his rehabilitation at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital at the end of June. His father said Ryan still sees a physiotherapist locally, and except for some occasional short-term memory issues he "has pretty much returned to normal."

The community showed its support with donations to a GoFundMe effort and also contributed to a day of unity organized by a family friend and fellow student when students, faculty and supporters wore blue or Highland Storm clothing, related to his love of ice hockey.

Tom Prentice Jr said the family is thankful and has appreciated the community's concern and support during the past several months. He thanks everyone for "the support, prayers and well wishes" Ryan and the family has received.

'I'm Popeye the Sailor Man'

IF YOU'RE OLD enough you've now got the Popeye theme song bouncing around in your head. You are welcome!

The second line of the song is "I'm strong to the finish, 'cause I eat my spinach." The important point is that Popeye was eating and singing the praises of spinach in the 1930s. There was one episode that I just found (thank you YouTube) that shows Popeye educating his nephews on the nutritional benefits of spinach. I know, it's crazy but true.



LAURIE SWEIG
Practical Fitness

You may be wondering what got me searching for Popeye cartoons today...well, I love spinach. If my mother is reading this she may be picking herself up from the floor right now. As a kid I believed that baked beans were a vegetable, and green leafy stuff belonged outside, on trees, in forests. This "love" of spinach did not exist when I was a kid, or even a younger adult for that matter.

I will admit, I still don't like the taste of spinach, but I've come to appreciate the benefits of consuming it regularly. It is low in calories and fat free. A 1-cup serving of raw spinach contains only 7 calories. Spinach is rich in Vitamin K and A. Vitamin K is important for blood clotting, and Vitamin A is essential for healthy vision, immune function, and skin and bone health. When it comes to the minerals that our bodies need, spinach contains moderate amounts of potassium, iron and magnesium. All of that, and so few calories. Thank you Mother Nature.

Thank you to the person who decided that harvesting spinach at an early stage was a good idea. Baby spinach, with its smaller leaves, tender texture and sweeter taste is my choice. I mix it into as many dishes as I can. Scrambled eggs, soups, tomato sauces, smoothies, and even refried beans. It's true; cut it up small enough and it's barely recognizable. I can easily eat one to five cups of it in a day. Baby spinach is also great in salads.

The other beautiful thing about spinach is that it can be frozen. I get to thank my Mom for this trick. If you've got some in the fridge that is starting to go "off," steam it, and then freeze it. Then next time you're making a tomato sauce toss it in. It's that easy. That bit of knowledge was not included in any of the Popeye cartoons I watched today. Maybe I missed that episode.

Be sure to add spinach to your grocery list. You may not grow muscles like Popeye did, but there'll be all kinds of other benefits coming your way. Regardless, you can still sing the song.... "I'm Popeye the sailor man..."

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal trainer and spinning instructor. She is one of the founders of The Point for Fitness: www.thepointforfitness.com.

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Kids book it to the library for storytime

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Kids looking for a break from a two-week winter break at home visited the Minden library on Jan. 4 for Family Storytime.

Nancy Therrien, programming coordinator, organized an hour that included a reading of *The Gingerbread Boy*, action poems and an interactive activity using bells before bringing the kids to a table full of materials for creative craft time.

“Nancy’s awesome,” said Brenda Robinson, who was at the event with Mazey, her seven-year-old granddaughter. “Whenever she’s presenting, we make sure we come out.”

“I think it’s a fun time because you can do crafts and make what you feel like,” said Mazey, who was completely engaged during the storytime activity, even volunteering to read a page of the story. After lunch with her grandma, she returned for the afternoon session of Maker Activities.

“I like being somewhere so I don’t have to be stuck at home,” she said.



Library programming coordinator Nancy Therrien engaged kids on Jan. 4 at a Storytime program at the Minden Hills library that included a book, a craft, and interactive rhymes. Similar programming takes place throughout the year. / SUE TIFFIN Staff



After a book, craft and interactive rhymes, seven-year-old Mazey Robinson created a craft at the Minden Hills library as part of a Storytime event on Jan. 4. Similar programming takes place throughout the year.

Would you rather win cash or keep smoking?

If you’re someone who regularly smokes, smokes socially, has stopped smoking or never smoked in your life, this contest can pay off for you.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is encouraging young people to take part in a six-week, quit-smoking contest that runs from Jan. 29 to March 11, The ‘Wouldurather’ contest – open to young people in Ontario between the ages of 18 to 29 years – challenges entrants to give up tobacco for a chance to win up to \$2,500 in cash. The contest is organized by Leave the Pack Behind, a program funded by the Ontario government that offers young adults information about becoming tobacco-free.

“As the contest suggests, ‘wouldurather’ win cash or engage in something like smoking that can have long-lasting negative effects on your health?” asks Jennifer Robertson, a public health nurse with the HKPR District Health Unit. “Not only does the Wouldurather contest offer a cash incentive to quit, it also provides plenty of support to help you stay tobacco-free during the six-week contest.”

To sign up for the contest, visit the Wouldurather website (www.wouldurather.ca)

and register prior to Jan. 28. The contest offers four categories to enter:

- Quit for good: Quit smoking completely and have a chance to win \$2,500.
- Keep the count: Cut smoking by half to be eligible to win \$1,000.
- Party without the smoke: Cut out smoking while drinking or attending a party and get a chance to win \$500.

Don’t start and win: Stay smoke-free for an opportunity to win \$250.

People can register with a “buddy” who can support them during the contest. Participants can also consult with their health care providers about using quit aids such as nicotine replacement therapy (patch, gum) or discuss prescription medication options.

“Eligible participants who rely on a quit-smoking buddy, and who also have access to nicotine patches and gum, can greatly improve their chances of success,” notes Robertson. “Research also shows that people can double their chances of successfully quitting smoking when they join the contest.”

Quitting smoking is very timely, as National Non-Smoking Week (Jan. 21 to 27) and Weedless Wednesday (Jan. 24) both occur this month.

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2017 Year in Review

January

Kinmount pharmacy robbed

Early in the new year, the OPP were looking for suspects in a robbery of the Kinmount pharmacy on Dec. 27, 2016. A man had entered the store with a hammer and demanded prescription drugs, police said. A second suspect was waiting outside in a getaway car.

Snowmobile races come to Minden

The Ontario Snowmobile Oval Racers hosted two days of activities at the ice track at the fairgrounds on Jan. 21 and 22. The vintage snowmobile event was one of the first for OSOR, which was a new organization.

Cultural centre escapes budget knife

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre did not face the budget cuts in 2017 it was expecting from council. In 2016, council ordered that \$50,000 be cut from the centre's budget, dropping it from \$340,000 to \$290,000. At the time, Reeve Brent Devolin said he'd like to see an additional \$50,000 removed from the budget in 2017. However, that did not come to pass. Further cuts were seen to have too many consequences for staff and programming.

County fair lives another year

In early 2017, members of the Haliburton County Fair board were questioning whether the 153-year-old tradition could continue. At its annual general meeting Jan. 21, members decided the changed date (a single Saturday in June) as well as the focus on getting schools involved had made the event worthwhile. Attendance was up over 2015 levels.

Aggressive winter puts pressure on roads department

The condition of some county roads had been poor during December, 2016, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey said during the Jan. 11 county roads advisory committee meeting. Equipment repairs and staff burnout contributed to the problem.

HHHS gets funding boost

The Central East Local Health Integration Network announced on Jan. 26 that more than \$2.6 million was be-



Sledders cross the finish line during snowmobile races at the Minden fairgrounds on Jan. 21.

ing invested into health services in Haliburton and City of Kawartha Lakes – \$88,400 of which came to Haliburton Highlands Health Services for improving access to services. HHHS also received \$125,000 for specific emergency department wait-time reduction targets.

Ombudsman won't act on OPP billing

Ontario's ombudsman did not take any action on a complaint from Haliburton County regarding the changed OPP billing formula. In May of 2016, county council sent a letter to the Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario, lodging a complaint with what it said was a flawed billing framework that unfairly affected communities with seasonal populations. The ombudsman's office response explained that the change in billing was done after "extensive stakeholder consultation."

Council votes to support safe space

Minden Hills township voted Jan. 26 to donate \$5,000 to

the Peterborough Haliburton YWCA to assist with the operation of the emergency safe space known as HERS. In 2016, the YWCA provided 671 outreach counsel sessions for women in the county and received 1,209 crisis calls. The YWCA was forced to close its emergency space for five months in 2016 due to lack of resources. Sixty-one per cent of its operating costs come from the government with the rest from fundraising.

Haliburton gets UN nod for environmental learning

The United Nations chose Peterborough and its surrounding region, which includes Haliburton County, as a Regional Centre for Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development. The honour was due to a large network of environmental organizations, centres and institutions in the area.

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February

Pickup crashes through store wall

No one was injured after a truck crashed through the wall of Dollo's Foodland on the afternoon of Feb. 5. It was about 1 p.m. when the truck, which had been stationed in the store's parking lot, lurched to life and made its way through the front wall of the building. "There was no one driving the vehicle. It was a phantom," store owner Jamie Dollo said. The truck rolled into the store after it was started remotely.

Algonquin Highlands discusses short-term cottage rentals

During a Feb. 2 meeting, councillors for Algonquin Highlands discussed what the township should be doing about short-term rental cottages. Websites such as Airbnb had made residents renting their cottages a more frequent occurrence, with complaints to council also becoming more frequent. Issues include noise, garbage and uncertainty of who (and how many people) would be at a neighbour's cottage for the weekend. Some townships have bylaws around such practices, requiring property owners fill out a licence. In the end, councillors decided intervention wasn't necessary, but that cottage owners should encourage their renters to be courteous.

Dianne Winmill wins Music Teacher of the Year

Minden native Dianne Winmill was named the 2017 MusiCounts Teacher of the Year for her "outstanding dedication to inspiring and nurturing the musical growth of Canadian youth." While Winmill grew up in Minden, she now teaches in Bancroft at North Hastings High School. MusiCounts is a music education charity, part of the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, which gives out the JUNO awards. She was presented the award by Jim Cuddy at the Blue Rodeo studio in Toronto. The award came with two grants: \$10,000 for the high school's music program and



This was the scene at Dollo's Foodland on Sunday, Feb. 5, after an unoccupied vehicle crashed through the wall of the store following what police called a mechanical malfunction.



People packed the Minden Hills Community Centre the evening of Feb. 11 for a sold-out Valentine's dinner and dance that was a fundraiser for the family of Parker Simpson, an eight-year-old boy who sadly lost his battle with cancer just days before, on Feb. 8. Parker was the son of Sarah and Devin Simpson, Sarah (nee Burk) hailing from Haliburton County. Balloons were released into the sky later in the night.

\$10,000 for Winmill. There were also two tickets to watch Blue Rodeo play at Massey Hall and VIP tickets for JUNO week in Ottawa.

Minden Hills fastest growing township

Data from the 2016 census released in February showed Minden Hills to be the fastest growing township in the county. Between 2011 and 2016, the year-round population in Minden Hills increased from 5,655 to 6,088, an increase of 7.7 per cent. (Highlands East saw the smallest amount of growth at 2.9 per cent and 3,343 year-round residents. Algonquin Highlands had an increase of 7.5 per cent with 2,351 residents and Dysart et al had 5.3 per cent increase with 6,280 year-round residents.)



Award-winning band Winterline perform at the inaugural Bluegrass in the Highlands Winter Festival at Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre on Feb. 25. The two day event drew performers and guests from across Ontario. From left, Bernie Caron, Joyce Gagnon, Jared Lozon, Gabe Gagnon, Ron Jubenville and Ken Robichaud.

Fire destroys Halls Lake home

Fire laid waste to a house on Halls Lake Road on the morning of Feb. 22. The lone male occupant of the year-round home was able to escape uninjured after a smoke detector went off. The home was destroyed by the fire, which was not deemed suspicious.

House explosion on Reynolds Road

Traffic was restricted from Reynolds Road in Minden Hills as the fire department and fire marshal's office investigated a house explosion that occurred on Feb. 23. No one was home at the time of the explosion. There was a propane tank on the property that erupted, but what led to that was unclear.

Inaugural bluegrass festival delights at Pinestone

The first Bluegrass in the Highlands Winter Festival drew guests and performers from across Ontario Feb. 24 and 25 at Pinestone Resort. Featuring eight musical acts and performers from far and wide, organizers said everything went "very well."

Not enough natural shoreline

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations flagged natural shoreline as a concern for Haliburton County in a preliminary report taken to county council on Feb. 22. At least 75 per cent of a lake's shoreline should have a naturalized 30-metre buffer from the water to prevent lake health from declining. However, CHA chairman Paul MacInnes told council in the evaluations done through the Love Your Lake program, 92 per cent were not meeting that 75 per cent naturalization target. At that point, the program had evaluated 47 of the county's lakes.

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March

New contractor on site in Algonquin Highlands

Algonquin Highlands hired a new contractor to complete the expansion of the municipal office along North Shore Road after the previous builder defaulted on the job in 2016. Lindsay-based Carbon Contracting was hired to complete the addition. The \$580,000 project, which included workspace for staff and accessible washrooms and front entranceway, had initially been scheduled for completion in the summer of 2016.

Max Ward wins Highlander of the Year

United church minister Max Ward took home the prestigious Highlander of the Year award on March 11 at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Business and Community Achievement Awards at Pinestone. Ward was one of six nominees and it was his second nomination. Aside

from being the minister for the Minden, Maple Lake and Carnarvon United Churches, he has also been involved with Places for People, the food bank in Minden and is a mason with the Arcadia Lodge.

Business award winners announced

This year there were 95 nominees up for 10 awards on March 11 at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Business and Community Achievement Awards at Pinestone, along with the Warden's Award which is selected by the warden each year. The winner of the Business Achievement Award was The Pump Shop; the Customer First-Business Award was won by Wintergeen Maple Products and Pancake Barn; Entrepreneur of the year was awarded to Mike McFadden, owner/operator of McFadden's Meat Market; Innovation and Creativity was awarded to The Haliburton Real Estate Team; Highland Glass & Windows took home New Business of the Year; Not-for-Profit of the Year was awarded to Community Living; the Skilled Trades and Industry honour was won by Harcourt Park Marina; the Tourism and Hospitality Award went to Bonnie View Inn; the Warden's Award was given to the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association. The Customer First-Employee Award honoured all the nominees by naming everyone a winner.

Emergency calls in county on the rise

The number of calls to the Haliburton County Paramedic Service were up again, councillors heard at the county's EMS advisory committee on March 8. There was a nearly eight per cent increase in calls for a total of 6,504 in 2016, up from 6,063 in 2015.

Eight wrestlers head to OFSAA

A record eight wrestlers qualified for the provincial tournament: Aidan Coles, Chloe Samson, Hannah Rioelle, Noelle Dupret-Smith, Matt Manning, Emily Klose, Dylan Freake and Karissa Riopelle all qualified. The event ran March 1 to 3 with just fewer than 800 wrestlers competing. The team wrestled well enough on the first day to advance to the second day of competition. Samson finished among the top 12 with a record of three wins and two losses. Hannah Riopelle received a fifth place finish. Coles ranked in the top eight in his class. He was also awarded the sportsmanship award.

Man dies in ATV crash

A Haliburton County man died following an ATV crash near Irondale. According to the Haliburton Highlands OPP, police were called to the site just after 8 a.m. on March 19. Police identified the man as 40-year-old Michael Anthony Bunn of Haliburton County.

No court in Minden for a year

In March it became known that provincial offences and small claims court proceedings in Minden would be suspended for a year from July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2018. Those proceedings would take place in Lindsay. A shortage of justices of the peace was to blame. Local politicians were concerned about the ramifications for the community – OPP costs affiliated with the transportation of county residents unable to get themselves to Lindsay, for one – and questioned whether the move was temporary as presented.



Archie Stouffer Elementary School's Devyn Garbutt, right, showcases his skipping skills during the school's enrichment session on skipping in the gym on Wednesday, March 29 in Minden. Kyna Rowbotham led the session, introducing the sport and offering the students an opportunity to join the school's new skipping team.

Province hiring justices of the peace

The Ministry of the Attorney General said it was working on filling the lack of justices of the peace that caused the court proceedings to be suspended in Minden. Of the 48 justice of the peace positions in the province's Central East region, 12 were vacant after retirements and three justices on long-term leave. Minden Hills Reeve and County Warden Brent Devolin called the situation "a multi-year trainwreck" and unacceptable. "We are extremely unhappy," Devolin told City of Kawartha Lakes courts operations manager Karen Dunn when she attended his council meeting on March 30. "It is not considerate of the people of Haliburton County."



Rick Wood, a semi-retired maple syrup producing hobbyist, takes a sample from his boiler to test for sugar content. Wood and his wife Wendy spent a little more than six weeks harvesting sap to produce maple syrup on their 26-acre property. They did their first tapping on Feb. 16.

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April

Council approves PTSD plan for fire department

Algonquin Highlands approved a plan for post-traumatic stress disorder prevention and anti-stigmatization at its April meeting. “All of the county’s fire departments and municipalities are working together to support this and create a peer support team,” fire chief Mike Cavanagh told councillors.

Seven win character awards at county schools

Michele Coneybeare, Janet Hutchinson, Bethan McCutcheon, Kate Stover and Anna-Marie Mills from Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Marianne Greber from Stuart Baker Elementary School and Linda Mintz from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School won character awards from Trillium Lakelands District School Board. The five winners at ASES represented different roles in the school community such as custodian, education assistant and volunteer.

MPP launches petition to keep court in Minden

Following news that the provincial offences court in Minden would be closed from July of 2017 to July of 2018, local MPP Laurie Scott launched a petition. Likening the decision to the province’s announcement and subsequent backtracking on closing the Service Ontario office in 2016, Scott called the situation government mismanagement.

Community comes together for Ryan Prentice

Friends, family and community members wore blue and Highland Storm clothing to show support for Ryan Prentice, a local teen who was admitted to St. Michael’s hospital on April 7 after suffering a brain hemorrhage. The initiative was started by Lillie Garbutt, who posted a photo and message to



Lillie Garbutt, a Grade 7 student at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, spearheaded the idea for area students to wear blue or Highland Storm clothing on April 10 to show support for Ryan Prentice, who was admitted to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto on April 7 with a brain hemorrhage.

Snapchat. Students at most of the county’s schools participated in the act on April 10. Ryan was later discharged from the ICU undergoing rehab and recovery. A family member told the *Times* that Ryan and his family were “staggered by the amount of support from all of Ryan’s friends, classmates and the community.”

OPP officer honoured

Haliburton Highlands OPP Const. Tim Negus was awarded an Outstanding Police Officer Service Award on April 10 in Peterborough. Negus was chosen for his ability to build partnerships and relationships. His work on Push For Change, using hockey to make connections between youth and the police, was highlighted.

Students miss record number of days due to weather

Large amounts of snow and freezing rain caused an unprecedented number of bus cancellations for Haliburton County students in the winter of 2017. Buses were cancelled 12 times. Freezing rain and other inclement weather conditions caused

the cancellations, the school board said. Despite more than two school weeks missed, the semester was not extended.

May

Flooding sends Minden Hills into emergency

For the second time in just more than four years, flooding of the Gull River plunged Minden Hills township into a state of emergency. On May 5, Minden Hills closed Anson, Orde and McKnight streets, along with Invergordon Avenue, as the river began to cover the streets of the village. On May 6, Reeve Brent Devolin declared a state of emergency. During the most intense period of flooding, the river rose nearly two metres in the span of six days. Throngs of residents and volunteers came out to assist Minden Hills staff with the tying and transport of sandbags during the weekend and days following.

Disaster relief assistance activated

Minden Hills residents were able to access disaster relief assistance from the provincial government. On May 12, Municipal Affairs minister Bill Mauro visited Minden Hills and made the announcement. Earlier in the week, MPP Laurie Scott had asked Mauro in Queen’s Park if the government would activate the program for the community. At the time he had said he would not as the assessment team was on the ground.

Town bridge remains closed

The Bobcaygeon Road bridge in Minden was closed to traffic for three weeks following flooding due to significant damage. For a time, the bridge was also closed to foot traffic. While several streets closed to traffic in the downtown were reopened by May 18, Anson, Invergordon, Orde, Peck and most of Water Street were still closed as of May 23.

Festival of Banners returns to Minden

Artists responded enthusiastically to reviving the Festival of Banners, which invites people to paint designs onto banners, which then line Bobcaygeon Road. The project started about a decade ago, but the organizing committee disbanded in 2016. Minden resident Sue Tiffin volunteered to bring the festival back and along with Minden Hills, was able to acquire a grant to relaunch. Sixteen large banners and 20 small banners were painted by residents with the theme Canada 150.

HHSS badminton player competes at provincials

Grade 11 athlete Ben Schmidt competed in the boys’ singles category at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations tournament. This was his second consecutive trip to the all-provincials for badminton; he attended with the senior squad in 2016 in the doubles competition.

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Michael Bainbridge pulls his boat, which he uses to ferry loved ones, back to his Anson Street home on Monday morning, May 8 in Minden. The Gull River has swelled and started flooding residential areas, closing roads such as Anson Street, Water Street and Orde Street, including the Bobcaygeon Road bridge. The last time the area was flooded was only four years ago.



Flooding on Minden's streets caused hazards for drivers and pedestrians in early May. A state of emergency was called May 6 and wasn't lifted until May 26.

Chamber speaks out on \$15 minimum wage proposal

Bill 148, which makes several changes to Ontario labour laws including setting a guaranteed number of sick days, enhancing workplace protections and increasing the minimum wage to \$15, attracted plenty of attention in 2017. In May, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce raised issue with the increase to the wage, saying it would reduce employment opportunities. They argued the increase should be introduced more slowly. To assist business, the chamber announced it would be working on a shop local campaign in 2018

Community mourns loss of teen

Fourteen-year-old Phoenix Acero died suddenly May 14, leaving family, friends and the wider community in shock. Known for his friendly nature and sense of loyalty and fairness, the teen's death was felt deeply at the school and in the county.

Bob Lake residents prepare for legal action

A cottager from Bob Lake made an appearance before Minden Hills council on May 25 telling council about his frustration after what was once thought of as a public boat launch was blocked by a landowner. It was since discovered that the launch is on private property and the owner of that property cited liability concerns when he decided to restrict access. The cottager suggested the prolonged use of the boat launch would classify as "prescriptive easement," a kind of legal right-of-way over property that has been used for a long time without contest. Reeve Brent Devolin said the township's lawyers had looked into that, but it didn't qualify. The cottager indicated a group of those on the lake would be taking legal action.

State of emergency lifted

After three weeks, Minden Hills lifted the state of emergency and reopened the Bobcaygeon Road bridge on May 26. Water Street remained closed.

Minden man recovering from bike accident

Larry Reynolds wanted to mark the sale of his friend's hunting camp by enjoying one more dirt bike ride with his friends on the property. But on May 27, the ride became memorable for a different reason when Larry moved to pass a fellow rider, hit a bump, missed a corner and crashed. He suffered a broken shoulder, wrist, pelvis, neck and had multiple rib fractures. He was rushed to hospital and was then transferred to St. Mike's in Toronto. During his rehabilitation, a GoFundMe page was set up to assist the Minden family.

Log chute damaged during flooding

The Hawk Lake Log Chute was badly damaged during heavy flooding in May. The reconstruction of the log chute was completed in the early 2000s, a project that took six years to complete. It was a re-creation of the structure that had existed at the site since 1861.

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Members of the Minden and District Horticultural Society give advice to shoppers at the society's annual plant sale at the Village Green on May 27.

June

Council eyes performance reviews for volunteer firefighters

Minden Hills councillors disagreed over whether members of the Minden Hills fire department should be subject to employment performance appraisals. During a June 8 committee of the whole meeting, councillors had a heated conversation

on the topic. Fire chief Doug Schell told council the process would add stress to the volunteer department. None of the other three municipalities in the county conduct such appraisals. The issue was deferred.

Pat Campbell named senior of the year

Minden Hills Reeve Brent Devolin awarded Pat Campbell a plaque and flowers during a June 8 meeting for being the Senior of the Year. She operated a family business in Minden for many years and is known for volunteerism with numerous organizations including the Terry Fox Run, Festival of Trees and horticulture society.

Algonquin Highlands drops 'reeve' for 'mayor'

In June, councillors in Algonquin Highlands decided to change the titles of "reeve" and "deputy-reeve" to "mayor" and "deputy mayor" commencing in July. The move was motivated by a sense that reeve was an outdated term that caused confusion when local politicians were outside of the county. The decision started the ball rolling across the county with Minden Hills, Dysart et al and Highlands East all passing motions to change the titles to mayor and deputy mayor.

residents told the paper they had never been instructed otherwise). Reeve Brent Devolin told the paper that when the township receives approval from the province for its 25-year management plan of the landfill, council will discuss changes to operations, including the potential adoption of more recycling streams.

Ryan Prentice nearing permanent homecoming

After a few months of medical care and rehab in Toronto, local teenager Ryan Prentice told the *Times* he was looking forward to spending Canada Day at home. He was admitted to St. Michael's hospital on April 7 with a hemorrhage and in the meantime the community had created a GoFundMe page and students at local schools had worn blue or Highland Storm jerseys in solidarity with the HHSS student.

Little and Longo awarded for athletics

Sam Longo and Jamie Little were named male and female athletes of the year respectively on June 13 at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School athletic banquet. The students thanked their families, coaches and community for the support.

Council revises firefighter review

Minden Hills council decided to revise the proposed review process for volunteer firefighters. During a June 29 meeting, chief administrative officer Lorrie Blanchard explained the process would not be the same as a formal performance review. Instead, it would be something of a wellness check, she said.

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July

Commissioner urges action on climate crisis

Environmental commissioner Dianne Saxe visited Minden Hills for a keynote address and meetings with local politicians. Brought to the county by Environment Haliburton, Saxe told the audience assembled at the community centre that greenhouse gases humans have released since the 1800s are changing the world as we know it. "This is completely uncharted territory," she said.

Housing project complete in Minden

Pinegrove Place was officially opened by a host of dignitaries on July 7. The project cost \$1.7 million and was built in a year by Lindsay company MVW Construction. It is the first phase of a two-phase development, expected to include another residence with up to 22 units.

Minden Hills to remediate landfill

Remediation of the Scotch Line landfill costing about \$155,000 will need to be done in response to a June 15 provincial officer's order by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. The order followed a site visit that came as a result of a complaint about leachate leaking out of the landfill onto surrounding property. Issues noted by the MOECC: black liquid pooled on the ground, black staining along the



Bryce Thornton practises with a wooden hammer at Stanhope Heritage Day/HUW MORGAN photo.



Crazy rafts filled the Gull River with colour on Canada Day.

site access road leading to the construction waste pile, improper materials in the construction waste pile.

West Nile virus in Haliburton County

The West Nile virus was found in mosquitoes from Haliburton County collected by the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit July 6. Residents were urged to take precautions to avoid being bitten. No human or equine cases were reported.

Flood mitigation slow

A post-flood meeting at the community centre July 18 delivered a frustrating message to audience members: mitigating flooding in the village of Minden will be a long, drawn out process. More than 100 people attended the meeting where they were able to ask questions of various reps from TSW, MNRF and the township about the flooding and state of emergency in May. Jewel Cunningham of the TSW told the audience that the impetus of the flood was 129 mm of rainfall in the area in late April and early May. Average rainfall for the whole month of May is less than 100 mm. At the time, the reservoir lakes north of Minden were already at or near capacity, leaving no storage room for the downpour.

Quarry application causes concern

Residents were concerned about an application to the province that would turn a pit into a quarry in the geographic township of McClintock, meaning that blasting and processing of rock would take place on that site. The issue came up at an Algonquin Highlands meeting on July 20 where Mayor Carol Moffatt said the township had no control over the application, which will be decided provincially. If approved by the province, the township requested a noise study, blasting impact analysis and other documentation be incorporated in the certificate of approval.

A meeting at the end of July brought about 100 people to

the Dorset rec centre to hear about the proposal. The proponents of the quarry said they heard concerns and would not be blasting 24-7. To address some concerns, the amount of material permitted to be extracted was reduced from 285,000 tonnes a year to 75,000.

Local man trademarks 'Haliburton'

Members of county council were informed July 26 that a local man had successfully trademarked the name "Haliburton." An error at the federal level left local politicians flummoxed – a guide to trademarks on the Government of Canada website explicitly states that geographical locations cannot be trademarked. Local MP Jamie Schmale was enlisted to help solve the problem. The MP called the situation "ridiculous and unfair." The holder of the trademark was Minden resident Michael Stinson, who later decided to give the trademark to the county. He said he had acquired it "as an opportunity to promote Haliburton outside of the county."

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August

Plans for Beaver Theatre paused

The redevelopment of the former Beaver Theatre in Minden is on hold, the owner told the *Minden Times*. Rahim Lakhani confirmed that the project to revitalize the theatre is paused until further developments, but would provide few other details. Operating as a movie theatre for decades, the Beaver Theatre sat unused for years before being reopened for a brief period by the previous owner in 2009. While the plan was for the Water Street building to serve as a movie theatre, live performance venue and arts hub, burst pipes led to a multi-million dollar lawsuit between the previous owner and a number of contractors, which also named the township.

Mandatory septic inspections becoming the norm

Haliburton County's municipalities took steps in the summer to develop septic re-inspection plans to prevent pollution on local lakes and rivers. In some cases, phosphorus from

septic tanks can cause blue-green algae blooms, which release toxins that make the water undrinkable and can endanger wildlife. In August, three of the county's four municipalities had plans in place to enforce a mandatory form of septic re-inspection.

Riding academy wins online contest

Haliburton's Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Academy was the recipient of the \$10,000 prize in Tangerine bank's Tangerine 20 contest. The winners of the contest, which aimed to reward organizations across the country that make a positive difference, were announced Aug. 9. Jennifer Semach, owner and operator of Walkabout Farm, said she was shocked to find out she won. With the money, she said they would buy a farm vehicle to allow those with limited mobility access to all of the farm and its benefits.

Minden, Carnarvon churches to amalgamate

The Minden United Church and Carnarvon's Zion United Church decided to join forces in 2018. A vote on the matter was held in 2016. While congregations in Minden and Carnarvon voted in favour of amalgamation, congregants at Maple Lake United (part of the three-church charge) voted to remain separate. Beginning in 2018, a month's worth of services will take place at Zion, then a month's worth at Minden the next month. This alternation will continue for at least six months as the new congregation decides which buildings will become home to the amalgamated church. The name of the new amalgamated church will be Highland Hills United Church.

Person infected with West Nile

The health unit warned residents to take precautions against mosquito bites after confirming one person in the region was infected with the West Nile virus. No one had been infected since 2012. The person with the virus was recovering, the health unit said.

Minden Pride brings community together

A week of events beginning Aug. 21 brought together members of the LGBTQ community and supporters in Minden. Starting with a flag raising at Minden Hills township office, attended by the MP, MPP and various other dignitaries, the week also included social events and a picnic.

Busy season dampened by rain

A cool, rainy summer was good for some and slowed business for others. The chamber of commerce manager Autumn Wilson told the *Minden Times* that the un-summer-like weather held many back from cottage visits, while local graphic designer Linda Middleton took issue with the way weather is depicted by websites, applications and weather stations. (She designed an alternative.) Sales of seasonal items such as hamburger buns and ice cream were reduced for some businesses. Others, like Wild Orchid Thai restaurant owner Ron Gambell, said the season was booming. "We're so swamped with people, we can't handle it," he said.



The rainbow flag flies at the Minden Hills township office following the flag raising ceremony on Monday, Aug. 21. The flag raising kicked off a week of Minden Pride events, concluding with its featured event Pride Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 27 at the Wild Swan.

Council approves firefighter performance appraisal

Minden Hills councillors approved a policy update to include appraisals for the township's volunteer firefighters. In addition to evaluations done by the fire department of firefighters, the township will conduct performance appraisals for firefighters every two years. Wording of the policy, which was initially met with some skepticism, was changed to better reflect the nature of the appraisals, which were described as "wellness checks." The policy was approved at Minden Hills council Aug. 31.

Bob Lake residents to construct launch

A group of Bob Lake residents told Minden Hills council they intend to construct a boat launch on a property along the narrows opening into the lake south of Minden. The property needed to be rezoned, council was told at its Aug. 31 meeting. The launch is to be used by 15 families, although one resident told councillors she was concerned it would become a commercial enterprise. The launch is necessary because the land that was once thought to be the public launch for the lake was found to be on private property. The landowner on that property closed up the launch for liability reasons.

Minden Hills to explore septic inspection options

Minden Hills councillors asked for a report on the types of septic re-inspections the township might undertake. The province mandated that municipalities create programs for re-inspection of septic tanks of 10,000 litres or less. "I want to start next year on some form of it," Reeve Brent Devolin told council at their Aug. 31 meeting.



The Hawk Lake Log Chute was badly damaged during heavy flooding in May. It was inspected Aug. 25.

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September

Parents frustrated by school board bus policy

Minden residents Jamie and Carol Walker told the *Minden Times* that they were worried for their son's safety after the local school board said it would not bus their four-year-old son, Bobby, to elementary school. The Walkers live on Deep Bay Road, 1.2 km from Archie Stouffer Elementary School, and were told that they lived too close to have their son picked up. The road Bobby is to walk is along the side of a 70 km/hr zone and is a major route that passes the emergency entrance to the hospital and helipad. The school board communications department wouldn't comment on individual cases, but said they take all concerns seriously and incorporate them into policy and procedure.

Plane crashes at Stanhope Airport

The occupants of a single-engine airplane were taken to hospital for precautionary reasons after their aircraft crashed east of Stanhope Airport on Sept. 9. There were two pilots on board attempting take-off when the plane lost power, police at the scene said. The two occupants were doing well enough to talk to first responders and to walk out to the roadway from the crash, where they met with EMS and were taken to hospital.

Schmale named shadow minister

Local MP Jamie Schmale was named deputy shadow minister for natural resources by Conservative party leader Andrew Scheer. The role is about "ensuring that we continue the responsible development of Canada's natural resources and making sure that our resources make it to market," the MP told the *Times*.

ATV crashes claim lives of two men

A 73-year-old man died after an ATV crash near Hunter Creek Road, south of Minden, on the afternoon of Sept. 8. Less than one week later, another accident claimed a man's life. On Sept. 13, members of the OPP were called to the scene of an ATV rollover on a logging road near Black River Road. The driver and lone occupant of the vehicle, Blaine McKay of Scarborough, 71, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Steep electricity costs put pressure on HHHS budget

Haliburton Highlands Health Services was sitting with a small surplus at the end of July, however, keeping the corporation in the black can be challenging, especially with hydro costs. In the last year, HHHS spent \$585,000 on hydro between all of its properties – a 60 per cent increase in two years. The board was alerted to the issue at its Sept. 28 meeting.

Five blooms for Minden Hills

For the second year in a row, Minden Hills was award-



Sue MacDonald co-owner of Killara Station shows people around her 88-hectare farm grounds during the Minden Hills Doors Open event held over the weekend from Sept. 16 to 17. Killara Station showed visitors the organic farm, Sue Mac Designs (felted, jewellery, wire sculpture, furniture and photography), dog breeding, dog boarding and the farm animals. Hundreds attended, visiting locations around Minden.

ed five blooms, the highest ranking possible, by Ontario Communities in Bloom. Judges visited Minden Hills in the summer and the results were released Sept. 9.

Early end for Carillion contract

The provincial government announced it would end its contract with multinational company Carillion for highway maintenance in its Huntsville district, which includes Haliburton County, just more than halfway through the contract. The 11-year contract with Carillion, worth \$12 million a year, began in 2012, and many county residents noticed a sharp decline in the quality of snow-clearing along highways 35 and 118.

Court closure moving ahead despite petition

The petition requesting the province reverse the decision to suspend provincial offences court proceedings at the Minden courthouse for a year had little effect. Response to the petition, created by local MPP Laurie Scott, from the government was that it would be inappropriate to intervene on the scheduling of judicial resources.

Sewage spreading site to be shut down

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change denied an application for the expansion of a sewage spreading field near Maple Lake and also denied approval of its continued operation. A Sept. 21 correspondence from David Bradley with the Peterborough MOECC to the company, which had been operating at the site since 2015, said water quality was central to the decision. The site had been the subject of protests by a citizens' group, Out Grandchildren Matter Too: Save Maple Lake.

Minden Hills makes move to 'mayor'

During a Sept. 28 meeting, councillors for Minden Hills



Hike leader Rebecca Krawczyk holds a hornworm on her thumb. Part of Bedrock Botanicals, the hike used the trails along the Frost Centre to educate the group about various native plants and their uses. When not volunteering her time for hikes, Krawczyk is a horticulturalist and landscape consultant, sells native plants and runs an online botanical boutique.

voted to change the title of its head of council from "reeve" to "mayor" and "deputy-reeve" to "deputy mayor." In July, Algonquin Highlands council became the first of the county's four lower-tier townships to make the move. By the end of 2017, all four had done so.

Seagull solution will have to wait

Minden Hills councillors deferred a conversation on how to deal with problem seagulls at the Scotch Line landfill and nearby Mountain Lake to their 2018 budget deliberations. Flocks of seagulls feed at the landfill and litter the lake with feces and garbage. They have been the subject of conversation at the council table for years. In early September, a lake resident came to council saying the problem was worsening and hindering enjoyment of property.

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October

Minden Hills fire chief resigns

Doug Schell, a member of the Minden fire department for nearly 30 years, resigned Oct. 6. He told the *Times* he was ready for a change. "It's a new career opportunity for me," said the fire chief. His new job was manager of environmental services and plant operations for Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Haliburton Highlands welcomes Hometown Hockey

Rogers Hometown Hockey tour made its way to the Highlands on Oct. 14 and 15, bringing with it a festival filled with games, prizes, food and Canada's favourite sport. Ron MacLean and Tara Slone came to Haliburton village to host the event, which was part of the Boston Bruins v. Vegas Golden Knights broadcast Sunday evening. From a special travelling studio parked at Head Lake, the hosts interviewed local hockey celebrities and young players during breaks in the game. Local fans came out in numbers, despite rain, winds and cold weather, to fill the venue and show their spirit.

Paramedics honoured for commitment to others

Three local paramedics were honoured, one posthumously, for exemplary service at a special ceremony in Ottawa on Sept. 28. Dwight Thomas, Brad Robinson and Gord Riddle were given the Governor General's Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal recognizing their dedication to the job and their community service during long careers helping others and saving lives. Riddle was months from retirement when he died in 2016. His widow, Elizabeth, attended the ceremony and received the award on his behalf.

Land trust lauds 'enviro heroes'

At their annual gala held Oct. 22, the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust took time to thank a group or individual from each of the county's four municipalities for their environmental work. From Minden Hills, TD Minden manager Carol Patrick took home the honour on behalf of the volunteers who worked on the TD Tree Day. From Highlands East, Brian Cain received a plaque on behalf of the Glamour Lake Cottagers' Association, which was instrumental in supporting the septic inspection and Love Your Lake programs. From Dysart et al, Brian Nash of Haliburton Solar and Wind was honoured for being an innovative energy company: the first in Ontario to build an off-grid demonstration centre. And in Algonquin Highlands, the Love Your Lake program of the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations was chosen, represented by Rita Moore and John McHardy, which conducted shoreline evaluations.

Reduced quarry loads lessen road worries

A request for a pavement design review looking into the



Highland Storm players gathered around NHL alumni Ron Stackhouse and Walt McKechnie prior to the parade of champions that led fans through Head Lake Park to the broadcasting studio for the live event at Hometown Hockey on Oct. 15.

impact, if any, there would be from the development of a quarry on McClintock Road in Algonquin Highlands was rescinded by council on Oct. 5. Because of the lowered tonnage of materials taken from the site (10,000 to 20,000 tonnes expected per year), there would be less impact to the road than initially thought.

Human trafficking happens in our region, MPP says

Kawartha Haliburton Victim Services helped 21 local victims of human sex trafficking from December of 2016 to October of 2017. Using funding from the Ministry of the Attorney General, the organization worked to help women recover from abuse with counselling, clothes and food. "That is a shocking statistic and we need to raise awareness of this crisis in our community," said MPP Laurie Scott in an interview with the *Minden Times*.

No pool in Minden community centre reno

A renovation at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Minden Hills Community Centre will not include an indoor swimming pool. The township's arena taskforce recommended a series of upgrades to the joint facilities in a renovation that could cost as much as \$6.5 million. The taskforce issued a survey to residents and held two public input sessions in 2016. Recommended: renovation including energy-efficient ice plant, lighting and HVAC system; single-sided seating; relocation of scorekeeper's box and penalty boxes; new change rooms and repurposing of old change rooms for storage; multi-purpose gym; relocation of office space; enlarged staff room. The information was delivered to council at their meeting Oct. 12.

County's Sears outlets to close following national announcement

The Sears stores in Haliburton County closed in the wake of the retailer's announcement that it would shut its remaining locations and liquidate its inventory. Sears Canada announced Oct. 10 it was seeking court permission to liquidate its remaining 130 stores and their merchandise. Both the Sears store in Haliburton village and the Sears catalogue de-

pot in Minden were set to close. By mid-November the stores had closed for good.

Minden Hills to perform lid-off septic inspections

Councillors discussed the type of septic inspections Minden Hills would require at their Oct. 12 meeting. They decided the township would create a program requiring lid-off inspections of residents' septic tanks as well as the pumping of tanks. It is estimated the cost for the program in Minden Hills will be between \$1 million and \$5 million with some 5,400 households in the township on septic or holding tank systems. It is estimated the annual sewage volume is more than 12 million litres.



Victorian vampires, portrayed by Haliburton residents Marina Morrow and her three-year-old daughter Jade, were among the diverse collection of costumed partiers at this year's Family Halloween Party at the Minden Hills Community Centre. Close to 300 people attended this year's event.

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November

Fire hall project incurs additional costs

It looks like the new Minden Hills fire hall being constructed along Highway 35 could cost at least \$115,000 more than anticipated. During a Nov. 9 committee of the whole meeting, councillors received a report from the interim fire chief Mike Bekking on the additional expenses. More than \$40,000 was spent on the excavation of soil and the hauling in of engineered soil during the construction of the building's foundation. Some \$20,000 of savings were found to offset that cost somewhat by going with standard insulated doors instead of polycarbonate, removing steel columns from the design, scrapping plans for vinyl windows in the air-fill room and changing the flooring material.

Bill 148 won't apply to firefighters

The financial implications of Bill 148, the province's Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, won't be as extreme for local governments as municipal leaders had feared. The bill contained numerous clauses pertaining to employment standards including dealing with on-call employees, dictating they be paid three hours of each 24-hour period they are on-call. Were that to apply to volunteer firefighters, who are essentially on-call at all times, the cost would have been staggering. Amendments were made after the bill passed second reading at Queen's Park in November, changing that the on-call provision would not apply to firefighters.

Worker falls from fire hall

A man was taken to hospital with serious injuries after trusses for the new Minden fire hall's roof collapsed on the afternoon of Nov. 21. The man was a worker on the project along Highway 35. A second construction worker, who was struck by the falling truss, was taken to hospital, but was uninjured.

Second clean-up order for Scotch Line landfill

Minden Hills was once again under fire from the province for the condition of the Scotch Line landfill. The municipality received an order from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change on Nov. 30, the second such order it received in 2017. The first was about the high amount of leachate. The second identified a number of instances where the municipality had exceeded permitted quantities for the temporary storage of hazardous waste.

Public boat launch proposed for Bob Lake

The newly formed Bob Lake Association requested that Minden Hills construct a new public boat launch on the lake south of Minden. Representatives of the association came to council Nov. 30 requesting financial support for the construction. The proposed project would involve the installation of a concrete boat launch on a road allowance along



Members of the Minden Legion's colour party march out at the conclusion of the Remembrance Day ceremony at the cenotaph on the Village Green on the morning of Nov. 11.



The Hoedown 4 Health event, which encouraged a country theme, drew a sold out crowd of more than 180 people at the Minden Community Centre. The sold out fundraiser event was organized by the Minden Health Care Auxiliary, who contributed to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Claude Brown Road. Mayor Brent Devolin said he wanted to see a staff report on the project come back with budget deliberations.

Partridge named warden for 2018

Longtime Highlands East Deputy Mayor Suzanne Partridge was named warden of the county for 2018. Partridge was the sole nominee at the Nov. 22 meeting. The warden is the head of county council, which is comprised of the mayors and deputy mayors of the four lower-tier municipalities. Partridge has been a municipal politician for nearly 20 years and was reeve of Cardiff prior to amalgamation.

Community gathers to work through grief, fear

A group of panellists came together to lead Hurting to Hope, a community event at the high school to address building concern in the community around youth mental health. Experts explained how to talk to people about suicide and where to seek help. Some parents at the event said they wanted more information on bullying and concrete plans. More wellness events are to come, organizers said.

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December

Danielsen named deputy warden

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen was selected as deputy warden for 2018 – the first to fill the new position. Danielsen was chosen Dec. 14 at a council meeting. The position will assist the warden, but is not a “warden-in-waiting.”

Wagon Wheel Motel fire results in fatality

A Trent Lakes man was killed in a fire at the former Wagon Wheel Motel along Highway 35 south of Minden on the morning of Dec. 16. When firefighters arrived, it was a “fully involved structure fire.” Minden Hills, Dysart et al and Algonquin Highlands fire departments all attended. OPP identified the deceased man as Johnathon Webb, 42. The crime unit and the fire marshal determined the death was not suspicious.

Minden celebrates volunteers

Minden Hills celebrated outstanding volunteers at its annual dinner Dec. 8. Winners included Sinclair Russell for



There were a lot opportunities for photos at the Royal Canadian Legion Kinmount Branch 441 when Santa came to visit with children during the Christmas in the Village event on Saturday, Dec. 9 in Kinmount.

the Gordon A. Monk award; Darian Maddock for the Ross Rigney Award for Civic Contribution; Mickey Bonham for the Minden Hills Good Neighbour Award; and *Minden Times* reporter Sue Tiffin for the Arts and Culture Award.

large, rotted branches suddenly break off. The Moose Trail is just one of many ski trails at the Frost Centre, the rest of which offer “fantastic” skiing, Card said.

Beech bark disease shuts down ski trail

Moose Ski Trail in Algonquin Highlands has been closed for the winter of 2017-2018 due to Beech Bark Disease. The announcement was made Dec. 16. Chris Card, parks, recreation and trails manager, said the infected trees would pose a safety risk to skiers in the area because of “beech snap,” when

Compiled from stories and photos by Angelica Ingram, Chad Ingram, Darren Lum, Jenn Watt, Sue Tiffin, Olivia Robinson, Robert Mackenzie and Huw Morgan.



The dancers with the Verba Ukranian Dance Company of Winnipeg perform as guests at the annual *Nutcracker* ballet performance for elementary school students on Friday, Dec. 1 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. They also staged their own show *Kolomeyka* later that evening in the great hall at Fleming College.



Minden Hills Cultural Centre was filled with Christmas cheer with many trees decorated at Festival of Trees.

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NOMINATE, NOMINATE, NOMINATE!

The deadline is fast approaching to submit nominations for the 12th Annual Business & Community Achievement Awards Gala.

These awards are all about showcasing those businesses, organizations, and individuals that are making a difference in our community, and we know there are a lot of them!

If someone comes to mind, please nominate them for one of the 11 awards we will be delivering. Absolutely anyone can nominate, and they don't have to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce to be nominated. We want to celebrate excellence across the Haliburton Highlands. Nomination forms can be found online at www.haliburtonchamber.com or at any branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. The staff at the Chamber are also available to help with your nomination in any way we can. Call us at 705-457-4700.

Deadline to submit a nomination is Thursday, February 15 at 4:00pm

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Thanks to extremely cold temperatures, a second Tom Prentice truck was used during the last two weeks of flooding to get the track finished. /Photo submitted by Wes London.



Freezing the track

Elaine Willis took this photo of a Tom Prentice truck flooding the track in preparation for the ice races starting Jan. 20 for six weeks at the Minden fairgrounds. Racing starts at 9 a.m. Saturdays and noon on Sundays. Races include rubber and ice class, front-wheel drive, rear-wheel drive and all-wheel drive and street stud class.



The track surface was looking sleek and slippery for the upcoming ice races. /Photo courtesy of Elaine Willis



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J.O. Jackson Memorial Bonspiel

The J.O. Jackson Memorial Bonspiel was held at the Minden Curling Club on Thursday, Dec. 28. The teams came from the curling clubs of Minden, Haliburton, Oakwood, Uxbridge, Fenelon Falls, Lindsay plus some ad hoc teams.

First draw teams were primarily from Minden and Haliburton curling clubs, plus two ad hoc teams:

First Draw first place and winner of the J.O. Jackson memorial Plaque was the Haliburton team of skip Dave Connell, vice Peter Byers, second Andy Glecoff and lead Eric Hussey.

First Draw second place was the Minden team skipped by Scotty Boyd, vice Dave Millington, second Bert Kennedy and lead Ron Bobbie

First Draw third place was an ad hoc team skipped by Alf Trotter, vice Bob Pollard, second Gord Keene and lead Bob Walli

Second draw teams were from such far-flung outstations as Oakwood, Fenelon Falls, Uxbridge and Lindsay.

Second draw first place was the Uxbridge team of skip Jim Wood, vice Doug Hoyle, second Glynn Bayliss and lead Tony Morrow.

Second draw second place winners from Oakwood were skip Jim Breadner, vice Doug Henderson, second Frank Ingram and lead Barry Hobbs.

Second draw third place was another Uxbridge team skipped by Gary Grant, vice Dave Farr, second Terry Jenkins and lead Dave Farr.

Assisting in prize-giving was the granddaughter of J.O. Jackson, Jessica Jackson.

Convenor Wes Lytle thanked all participants and expressed heartfelt thanks to all support workers at the bonspiel, including the volunteer kitchen staff, bar staff, ice makers and the executive of Minden Curling Club.

A delicious lunch from Molly's Bistro was served at two lunch sittings.

Submitted by Wes Lytle



Bowling Scores

Friday, Jan. 5

Ladies

- High average Ren Higgins 171
- High single Ren Higgins 223
- High triple Ren Higgins 533
- High single hcp Ren Higgins 266
- High triple hcp Barb Cameron 734

Men

- High average Rick West 213
- High single Rick West 263
- High triple Rick West 669
- High single hcp Gary Hunt 281
- High triple hcp Rick West 699

Tuesday Afternoon Bowling Scores Jan. 2

Men

- High Average Claude Cote 224
- High Single Ken Thompson 319
- High Single H/C Ken Thompson 341
- High Triple Claude Cote 636
- High Triple H/C Dave Tipton 755

Women

- High Average Chris Cote 198
- High Single Rae Shephard 228
- High Single H/C Rae Shephard 289
- High Triple Rae Shephard 527
- High Triple H/C Rae Shephard 710

Monday afternoon, Dec. 18

High Average (cumulative)

- Women – Chris Cote – 197
- Men – Claude Cote – 206

This Week's Highs – Women

- High Single – Chris Cote – 209
- High Triple – Chris Cote – 614
- High Single Hcp – Lorraine Semple – 235

High Triple Hcp – Chris Cote – 680

This Week's Highs – Men

- High Single – Marty Schuster – 248
- High Triple – Dave Stokes – 702
- High Single Hcp – Dave Stokes – 282
- High Triple Hcp – Dave Stokes – 807

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SNOWSHOEING!

Friday January 26th : **INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!**
11:00am-12:00pm
Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

Friday February 9th: **HIKE SNOWDON PARK!**
11:00am
Meet in the parking lot (off County Rd #1). No fee

Friday February 23rd : **INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!**
11:00am-12:00pm
Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

Please note: All snowshoeing programs are dependent on the weather and snow conditions. Snowshoes and walking poles will be available. To register contact Elisha at 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

SUDOKU

	5	6			1		4	
					5			
3				4		8		
	7				4		9	
2			5	9	7		1	6
	4			5				
	2			6	9			
6	1	3	7					

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 30

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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UPCOMING
Community
Events

Fur and Flintlock
When: Saturday, Jan. 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: Dorset area
Discover the fascinating world of Canada's and Haliburton County's oldest industry – the fur trade. This intriguing adventure takes you back into history with an 18th century fur trader, along forest and stream on snowshoes to a trading post to hear the stories, see the authentic trade goods, and feast on a traditional lunch.
Contact: Yours Outdoors 705-754-3436, info@yoursoutdoors.ca www.yoursoutdoors.ca

Open Stage - Haliburton County Folk Society
When: Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Highlands Museum
Come play, come listen. Admission by donation.
Contact: info@haliburtonfolk.com 705 - 754-3655 www.haliburtonfolk.com

Abbey Gardens Snowshoe & Lunch
When: Saturday Jan. 13, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Where: Abbey Gardens, 1012 Garden Gate Drive, Haliburton
Explore the beauty of the Highlands winter landscape with a guided snowshoe, then come back to the Food Hub for a hearty, homemade lunch. \$25 per person.
Contact: For more information, contact Cara Steele, cara@abbeygardens.ca 705 754 4769. www.abbeygardens.ca

Therapeutic Touch® Level 1
When: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018
Learn a holistic, evidenced based therapy that provides relaxation in any situation and boosts the immune system for improved healing, health and well being.
Level 1 introduces the method and the human energy system with hands on practice.
Contact Susan Keith at 705-457-3981 or email: ch.concepts@sympatico.ca.

Sir Sam's Ski Challenge
When: Sunday Jan. 14
Where: Sir Sam's Ski / Ride
Family Fun ski race (runs for 7 Sundays plus final race Saturday, Mar. 3)
(\$40 entry fee per person) Contact: chris@sirsams.com 705-754-2298

Haliburton Highlands Camera Club Meeting
When: Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.
Where: Common Room at the Minden Cultural Centre, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden
Monthly meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Camera Club
Contact: events@highlandscameraclub.ca

Basic Beginner Line Dancing
When: Thursday mornings, 10 to 11 a.m. starting Jan. 18 for a 10 week course
Where: Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall
Learn the basic line dancing steps and how to put them together to enjoy line dancing and increase your activity level. Good for the body and the mind!
This is a 10 week course starting on Jan. 18 and requires preregistration. Course Cost: \$50
Contact: Jacqui, ClanceLineDance@gmail.com

High on Ice
When: Thursday, Jan. 18, 2 to 4 p.m.
Where: Medeba
Embrace the winter wonders of the Highlands and try your hand (and foot) at ice climbing. You will scale the slippery slope on a 50 ft wall. This is a fun and safe two hour introduction to ice climbing. Climbing equipment, a warm hut, snacks and hot beverages will be provided.
Contact: Yours Outdoors 705-754-3436, info@yoursoutdoors.ca, www.yoursoutdoors.ca

The Canadian Federation Of University Women (CFUW)
WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 18, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Haliburton United Church
WHO: Andy Oh
TOPIC: Sweet and Savoury Korean Treats
Andy Oh and his wife Sunny Park are the chef/owners of Maple Avenue Tap and Grill in Haliburton. Originally from Korea, Andy and Sunny bring 16 years of experience in the food industry to their restaurant which serves both Canadian and Korean style foods. For our event, Andy will be demonstrating how to cook a few Korean dishes while we get to watch and learn – and then savour.
COST: You are welcome to join us if you are a woman who is not yet a member of CFUW but are considering joining.

MINOR HOCKEY

Atom 2 team faces off against Huntsville

On Saturday the TD Bank Local League Atom 2 team faced off against the Huntsville Hidden Valley Atoms. The Storm had tough decisions to make before the game even started. Goalie Jacob Lloyd suffered an injury to his wrist and was unable to play. Centreman Andy Lippolis agreed to step up and strap on the goalie pads. Huntsville tested Andy early and often. In the final minutes of the first period Eric Mueller intercepted a pass and raced towards the Huntsville net. Although he did not score on the shot, the juicy rebound landed on Ethan Thomas's stick. Thomas made no mistakes and quickly put the puck in the back of the Huntsville net. In the second, Toby Posti let a blistering slap shot go from the point and Owen Sisson was right there in front of the net with a redirect to score the Storm's second goal of the game. The Storm worked hard in their zone and in Huntsville's end. It was halfway through the third when the hard work paid off. Thomas got his second of the game batting in another Mueller rebound. Assists going to Eric Mueller and defenceman Maxime Little. Andy Lippolis did an amazing job being thrown into the net. He stood on his head providing the crowd with lots of reason to "oooo" and "aw." Final score 8-3 Huntsville.

Next up on Sunday the TD Bank LL Atom 2 hosted the Huntsville McDonald's Atoms at the A.J. LaRue in Haliburton. Bryan Robichaud of the Storm's Atom 1 team was able to provide injury relief and stand between the pipes for the Atom 2 team. Huntsville came out strong swarming Storm's end. It wasn't until mid way through the third period that the Storm was able to get one past the Huntsville goalie. Toby Posti made it clear he'd been working hard on his slapshot from the point when he let one go in the third period. The Huntsville goalie never stood a chance as the puck was in the back of the net before he had a chance to flinch.

Not three minutes later Posti let another shot fly. This time the tender was able to get in front of it, but Ethan Thomas was right there to smack the rebound to the back of the net for the Storm's second goal of the game. Despite the hard work from both Robichaud and the Atom 2 team Huntsville ran away with a 10-2 win.

Next up this weekend the two Storm Atom teams face off against each other at the Haliburton arena.

Bantam LL logs another shutout

Total Site Services Bantam LL team travelled to Huntsville to take on the home team on the Olympic size rink. First period saw a lot of post shots and near misses, not for a lack of trying. Jackson Wilson got the Storm on the board with five minutes remaining in the first.

The second period saw goals by Kolby McGovern, Cody Martin and Nick Phippen and beautiful passes from Jackson Wilson and Captain Reese Casey.

The third period saw a lot of action. Casey passed a beauty to Wilson for his second of the game. Then "Wonder twin power activated" as quoted by Jen Casey, the Martin brothers made a full length pass to Cody on a beautiful goal. The scoring continued moments later Tyler to Nick, Hunter Winder to McGovern and Phippen put the last one in with five seconds remaining. The team really figured out how to maximize playing as a team and passing gets many more scoring opportunities. Our goalie was able to log yet another shutout. Way to go, Total Site Service Bantams on a great game.

Submitted by Kathy Martin

Convincing win for Atom AE's

Right back to the grind for the Highland Storm after the holidays. The new year started for the G.J. Burtch Construction Atom AE team on Jan. 2 with travelling down to Lindsay to face the Muskies. The Storm shot out of the gate scoring 46 seconds into the game; Liam Harrison fired a pass over to Maclean Rowden who was in perfect position in front of the net. The Storm fought hard throughout the game but fell short to the Muskies 6-1.

A. J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton, the G.J. Burtch Construction Atom team played against the Collingwood Blackhawks on Saturday, Jan. 6. Again the Storm came out of the gate flying scoring the first goal of the game. Evan Jones scored a beautiful goal to put the Storm up 1-0, but that lead was short lived as the Collingwood Blackhawks quickly responded with a goal of their own to make it 1-1. The second period was a reversal of the first period, the Blackhawks came out and had the Storm on their heels, they scored the go ahead goal and took a 2-1 lead, but minutes later the Storm came storming back and tied the game on an exceptional goal from Jace Mills who was setup by Parker Simms, that tandem wasn't finished. A few minutes later those same two players hooked up again and gave the Storm a 3-1 lead with a shot that picked the top corner over the goalie's shoulder. Going into the third period, up by one the Storm played their hearts out, Rowden received a pass from Wyatt Raposo for the Storm's fourth goal, and with under a minute left Mills iced the game with his third goal of the game and all but sealed the win with a hat trick for the Storm.

At the S.G. Nesbitt Arena the Highland Storm battled against the South Muskoka Bears on Jan. 7. It was a tough battle right from the opening faceoff; the games went back and forth but in the end the Storm fell short in a 6-0 loss. Please stay tuned to the Highland Storm's website for updates on the playoff schedule.

Atom A's shut out Mariposa Lightning

The Cottage Country Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Highland Storm Atom A's hosted the Lindsay Muskies at the A.J. LaRue arena on Saturday, Jan. 6. Both the Lindsay Muskies and the Highland Storm came out for a win. The first two periods both teams tried to get a goal. The game remained scoreless until there was only six minutes left in the period. Addison Carr scored a beauty rebound goal, putting the Storm on the scoreboard. However Lindsay wasn't giving up that easy and they scored two minutes later. Both teams tried to make a second goal happen but unfortunately the final was a 1-1 tie.

On Sunday, Jan. 7 the Cottage Country Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Highland Storm Atom A's travelled to Oakwood to face the Maripossa Lightning.

The Highland Storm dominated this game with a 10-0 win. Goals were scored by Addison Carr, Cheyenne Degeer, Brechin Johnston and Joshua Scheffe. A huge shoutout to Aaron Neave on the excellent goaltending and a well deserved shutout.

The next game for the Cottage Country Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Highland Storm Atom A's is on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena versus the Bracebridge Bears.

Submitted by Amber Card

Peewee Thunder and Storm battle it out

On Saturday, Jan. 6 the JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewees hosted the see page 35

SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	5	6	8	3	1	2	4	9
4	8	2	9	7	5	6	3	1
3	9	1	2	4	6	8	7	5
1	7	5	6	2	4	3	9	8
9	6	4	3	1	8	5	2	7
2	3	8	5	9	7	4	1	6
8	4	9	1	5	3	7	6	2
5	2	7	4	6	9	1	8	3
6	1	3	7	8	2	9	5	4



County of Haliburton
Notice
Adoption of the 2018 Budget

The Council of the County of Haliburton provides PUBLIC NOTICE that they will consider approving the 2018 County of Haliburton Budget at the regularly scheduled Council meeting on January 24, 2018 in the County Administration Building located at 11 Newcastle Street in Minden.
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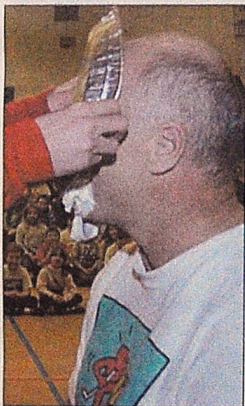
LOOK INSIDE



Slain officers honoured

Thirty-five years after two police officers were murdered at South Lake, a plaque is dedicated in their honour at Minden OPP.

See page 3



Pie-back time

ASES's top magazine seller gets to make principal enjoy a taste of pie

See page 10

In Quotes

"Please, Bill, don't do anything you'll be sorry for."

Lorne Chapitis's last words before he was shot

Four companies bid for municipal office

Quotes range from \$1.5- to \$2-million

by MATTHEW WALLS
Times staff

The fate of the proposed municipal office for Minden Hills could be determined by council within the next few weeks.

Last Wednesday, Minden Hills council opened four building ten-

ders for the office, with figures ranging from \$1.5 million to close to \$2 million.

Council will not make any decisions until they read the report on the tenders being prepared by architect Duncan Ross, CAO Gerry Morrison and Environmental and Property Operations Manager Bob Romberg.

Reeve Ross Rigney said council will look at the report and the documents at its first meeting on

Thursday, and will likely then set a meeting to discuss the tenders.

Rigney and councillors Peter Oyler, Cheryl Murdoch and Ron Buchanan attended the tenders' opening.

Oyler said he thinks the lower figures "probably are attainable" for council.

The tenders were received after council made a second call for building tenders on September 25th, after the first

call drew only just one response.

For this tender, the proposed building site was the Minden Curling Club's parking lot.

While the Curling Club has not publicly opposed the proposal, the club's executive is said to be split on the issue and several months ago the executive sent a letter to council stating their reservations. One of the executive members, Cheryl Murdoch,

see COUNCIL page 16



Christmas in Carnarvon

Ladies from the Lochlin United Church were among those who participated in the Christmas in Carnarvon celebrations. The ladies,

including Marilyn Marks, Lois Rigney (behind), Yvonne Newell, Linda Catenazzi and Janice Shaw, left to right, entertained by performing a skit.

Weather to blame for power outages: Hydro

by JERRY GROZELLE
& MARTHA PERKINS

Times staff

Mother Nature is being blamed for power outages that we have experienced in Haliburton County over the past several weeks. A combination of factors

has caused problems, says Ken Casey, Union Trade Supervisor with Hydro One in Minden.

High winds have not only contributed to trees being blown down across hydro lines, they also played havoc with some old copper wires.

Casey said that copper is vulnerable to vibrations caused by high winds. That is what caused an outage in Haliburton County last Tuesday evening. The copper line snapped at the corner of Highway 35 and the north junction of County Road 121 near the

Corner Store at just after 7 p.m. on December 2. The break in the line affected three power stations — Minden, Kinmount and Gull River (on the Deep Bay Road).

When the line broke, it slipped

see WET GROUND page 2

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Jessie Coreena Roberts
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Highland Wood Nursing Home in Haliburton on Friday December 29, 2017 in her 92nd year. Beloved wife of the late Frank. Loving mother of Sylvia Bradshaw (Garry), and Rocky (Kim). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren

Jason Martin (Michelle), Jeremy (Karen), Jake, and great-grandchildren Dylan, Gracie, and Kerronia. Survived by her brother Bill Duncan. Jessie lived her faith, enjoyed photography, nature, crafting poetry and most of all time with her family.

Visitation, Funeral Service & Reception

Friends were invited to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Thursday morning, January 4, 2018 for Funeral Service in the Chapel at 11 o'clock. (Visitation was one hour prior). Reception followed in The Community Room. Spring interment Evergreen Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the Full Gospel Lighthouse would be appreciated by the family.

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Linda Salvatori (nee Wagg)
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of Linda; wonderful wife and best friend of Tony for over 51 years. Cherished mother of Tracy, Jay (Tracy) and devastatingly predeceased by her son Sean (2015). Beloved and loving grandmother to Kayla and Marco. Loving aunt and true friend to many. She slipped away peacefully with her family by her side. Linda was an Angel to many. Her loving and generous spirit will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Visitation, Mass of Christian Burial & Reception

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday afternoon, January 15, 2018 from 4 - 7 p.m. Then to **ST. ANTHONY'S OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, Ontario on Tuesday afternoon, January 16, 2018 for Mass of Christian Burial at 1 o'clock. Spring interment St. Anthony's Of Padua Roman Catholic Cemetery, Haliburton. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

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MINOR HOCKEY

from page 30

Durham Crusaders.

The Crusaders were on the board first by taking advantage on a power play and scored two more but the Storm kept battling hard and scored one of their own with a goal by Cooper Coles assisted by Kyan Hall and Aiden Perrott. The first period ended with the Crusaders up 3-1. The second period the Crusaders took control adding four more to put them ahead 7-1. The third period the Storm netted another with Gage Hutchinson putting it in unassisted but the Crusaders added one more to take the game 8-2. The PeeWees travelled to Fenelon Falls on Sunday to take on the Sturgeon Lake Thunder. The Thunder struck first but the Storm answered with one of their own in the closing seconds of the first period with Hutchinson scoring assisted by Kaine Brannigan to tie it up at ones. At the start of the second Hutchinson scored again to give the Storm the lead assisted by Austin Boylan. The Thunder came back to tie it up but the Storm took advantage on the power play as Brannigan buried one in assisted by Hutchinson and Evan Armstrong to put them back on top but the Thunder came back 12 seconds later to tie it up going into the third. Both teams battled back and forth but the Thunder scored to put them ahead. The Storm tried everything they had until the dying seconds but fell short with the Thunder taking the game 4-3. The Storm head to Parry Sound on Saturday, Jan. 13 and Sunday the 14 to play in the MPS tournament.

Submitted by Ron Hall

Atom 1 team hosts Burk's Falls

On Saturday, Jan. 6, at -40C local league Pharmasave Atom 1 team was hosted in Burk's Falls by Almaguin Ice Devils for one of the most anticipated wins of the season. During the first period the Ice Devils opened up with scoring, but Logan Reid answered back one minute later with an assist by Haiden Bird and Owen Megrah-Poppe. The Ice Devils came back with another goal in the first. During the second period, Daniel Stephen opened the scoring again with an unassisted goal followed by another goal minutes later by Daniel assisted by Haiden Bird. Another goal was scored by Eric Bird assisted by Carson Jones and Jacob Mantle. In the third period, the Ice

Devils scored but the Storm came right back with amazing teamwork to score two goals by Haiden Bird assisted by Eric Bird, Logan Reid and Owen Megrah-Poppe. The last second of the game, the Storm received a penalty which resulted in a penalty shot, which Brian Robichaud shut down for a final score of 6-3. Storm on!

Submitted by Chris McMartin

Midget Storm plays in MPS playoffs

The Highlander and Smolen Family Dentistry Highland Storm Midget team travelled to Bracebridge, Friday Jan. 5 and participated in the MPS playoffs. It was a tough weekend being short many players, which resulted in a 6-1 win against the Parry Sound Shamrocks, an 3-2 OT loss against the South Muskoka Bears and a 3-1 loss against the Huntsville Otters. It was a sluggish start Jan. 5 against the Parry Sound Shamrocks. The Storm was missing many players between suspensions and injuries and that showed as the lines scrambled for familiarity. Luckily, the Shamrocks are no match, even with the Storm's short bench, they skated away with a 6-1 victory. It was an early start the following day, Jan. 6, against the South Muskoka Bears. Although it took most of the first period for the Midgets to warm up, many players were back on the bench and the Storm team was ready for the challenge. Owen Gilbert got things going late in the first with a hard drive and the first goal, help from Matt Manning and Jacob Haedicke. The Bears answered back quickly, tying the game seconds before the period ended. The second period was action packed, both teams working hard for the go ahead goal. With seconds to go in the period, the Bears took the lead. The third period was intense with the Bears constantly on attack but it was goalie, Parker Smolen that continued to shut them out. His outstanding saves kept the Storm in the game. The Storm team took advantage while on a power play.

Manning's pass gave Flood a point shot that tied the game and sent it into three-on-three overtime. It was eight three-minute periods of nail-biting overtime. However, the devastating goal came from the Bears and it was sadly over. Later in the day, the Storm

Midgets met with the Huntsville Otters. This was a do or die game for both teams, as the winner would move into the finals. It was a rough, action-filled game from the start, with busy penalty boxes. However, defensive errors by the Storm gave the Otters two goals in the first period. The Storm got motivated after Lucas Haedicke jumped out of the penalty box to pick up Jacob Haedicke's perfectly timed pass. He moved up centre and his determination cut the defence and chipped it into the net. End to end play continued in the second. With minutes left, the Otters got lucky with a goal, making it 3-1. That was the end for the Storm, they worked hard and did all they could.

Submitted by Suzanne Haedicke

Strong effort by Bantam A Storm

Last Friday the Highland Storm Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House Dollo's Foodland Bantam A faced off against the South Muskoka Bears in the opening game of the MPS Playdowns. The Storm's Desi Davies put the Storm in the lead at the end of a very entertaining first period scoring on his own rebound. The Bears would get the next three goals, two on the power play. Brendan Coumbs made it a nail biter scoring with only a couple of minutes left and he almost tied the game with under a minute to go but the puck jumped teasingly over his stick as he stood in front of a wide open net. South Muskoka put the game out of reach in the last few seconds scoring in an empty net for a 4-2 win in a very fun game to watch.

Game 2 was against the Parry Sound Shamrocks early Saturday morning. Tyson Clements scored quickly for the Storm to give them a lead till midway through the second period when the Shamrocks finally found a way to get the puck past Storm keeper Nate Miscio. The Shamrocks took the lead later on in that middle frame scoring on a lofty shot from the blue line past a screened Miscio. Similar to game one, the Storm played a very entertaining game but found themselves on the losing end of a 4-1 score.

The final game of the day saw the Storm take on the Huntsville Otters. The boys kept up for much of the first period however the depth of the powerful Otters team finally broke through at the end of the opening frame to take a 1-0 lead on their way to a convincing

5-0 win over the Highland Storm.

Submitted by Gord Hoenow

Bantam girls win four over holidays

The Canadian Tire/Parkview Dental Bantam Girls Jets continue to work hard and are determined to hold first place in the LLFHL.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, the team travelled to Peterborough to face the Ice Kats. The Jets took the win 3-1. Gillian Rosik got the puck, skated it past the Ice Kats defence, and got a beautiful wrist shot goal, top left corner. Haley Goulet followed adding a second goal, from a precision stick to stick pass from Rosik. The final goal was by Beth Brownlee whose patience and perseverance in front of the opponents net paid off, when she received a pass from teammate Kennedy Crockery and put it past the Ice Kats goalie.

Sunday, Dec. 31, the girls hit the road to face the Napanee Crunch for two games. Napanee took the first win 2-1 over the Jets, and the Jets won the second 2-0.

Mackenzie Hudder scored the team's lone goal in the first game, with an awesome backhand right in front of the net. In the second game, Hannah McMann and Rosik each added to the scoreboard, unassisted.

On Saturday, Jan. 6, the team played Ennismore in Lakefield. Emma Neuman scored early in the first, with a shot from the blue line, assisted by Jaylin Frost. With no goals being scored in the second period, the Jets went on scoring streak with their stick to stick passing in the third. Goals were scored by Brownlee, Emma Tidey, and Crockery. Assists went to Frost, Rosik, and McMann.

Final score, Jets 4, Eagles 0.

Sunday, Jan. 7, the Jets took on Keene in Haliburton and won 5-3. Scoring for the Jets were Goulet (with two), both assisted by Crockery, Brownlee and Neuman unassisted, and Tidey who deked the Wolverines goalie out of her socks, with a pass from Rosik.

Bella Smolen has been on fire in net for the Jets adding to the team success.

We wish the team all the best as they travel to Orillia this weekend to participate in the annual Orillia Hawks Tournament. Go, Jets, go!

Submitted by Linda Goulet

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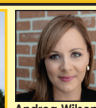
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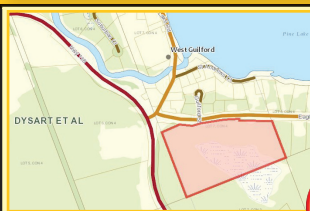
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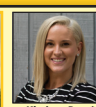
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457-2128 x 29

In Town Commercial \$299,000

- Clean & tidy 3000 Sq. Ft. building
- Fully finished, right in Haliburton
- Ideal for a studio, a retail space or offices!



Kirsten Roe*
286-2138 x 30

Kennisis River \$109,900

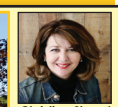
- Lovely building lot, short boat ride into Halls Lake
- Natural shoreline with picturesque river views!



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Wilberforce Home \$276,000

- Huge home on 3 acres of privacy
- 3 levels, lots of room for the whole family
- Plus several W/O's, rec room w/bar & more



Christine Sharp*
286-2138 x59

Pine Lake Retreat \$829,000

- 5 bedrooms / 3 baths
- Over 2 acres facing NW
- Many upgrades and features



Haliburton (705) 457-2128
Minden (705) 286-2138
Carnarvon (705) 489-9968

Kennisis/Redstone (705) 754-1932
Wilberforce (705) 448-2311



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